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September 1985

THE **Wrestler**

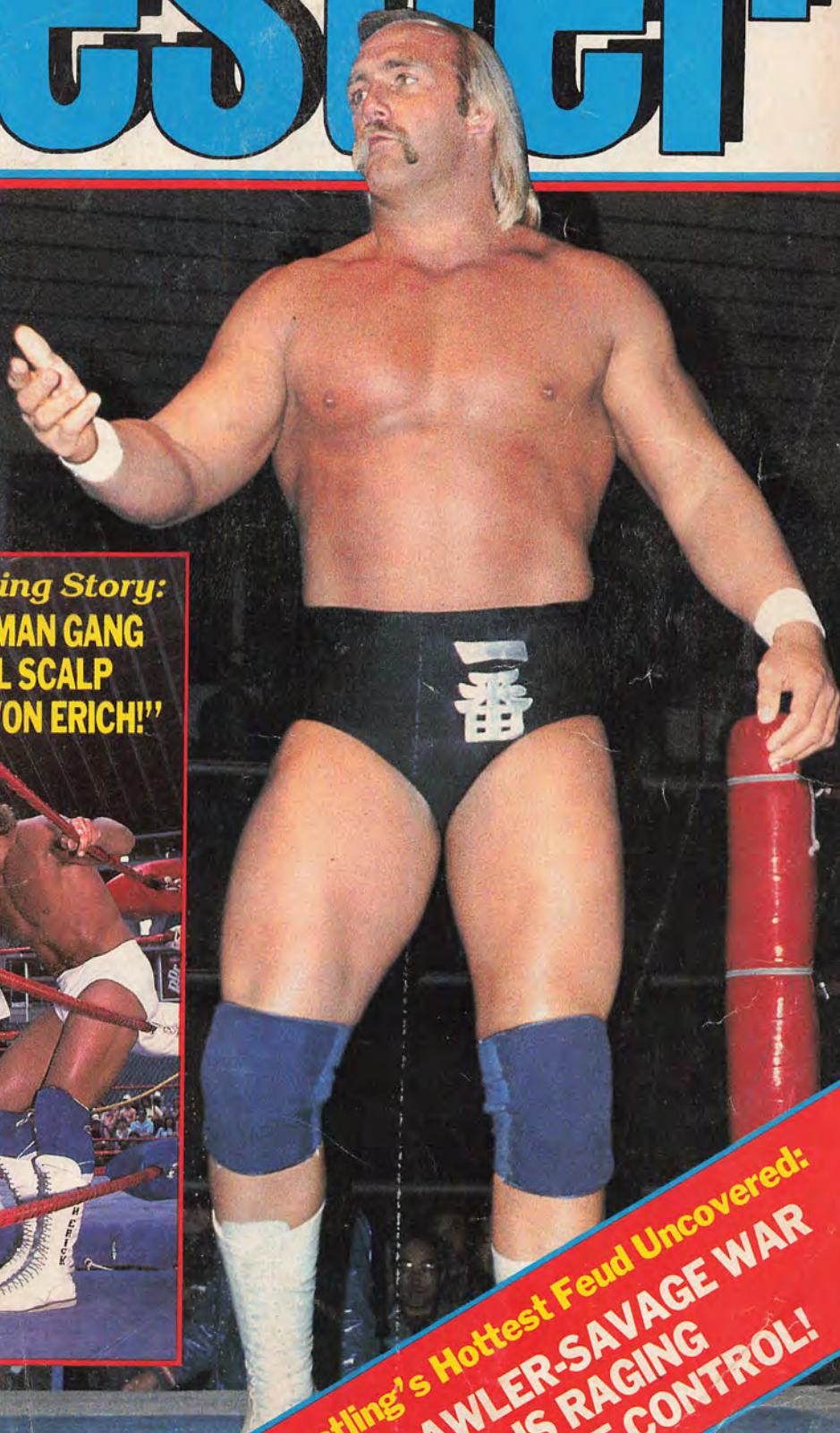
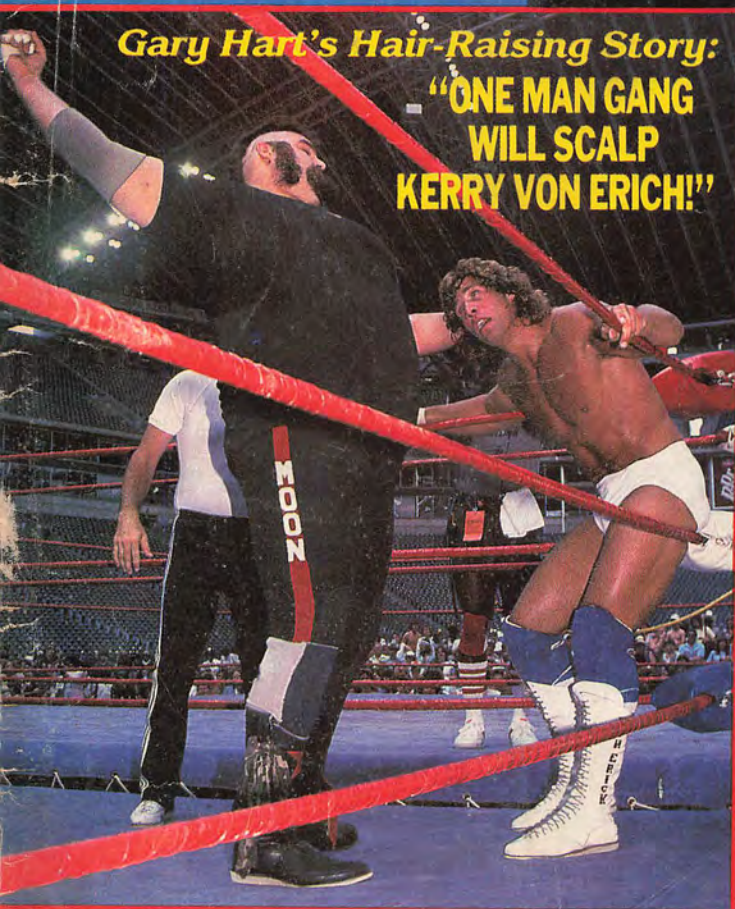
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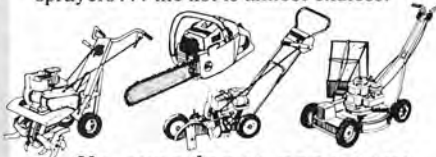
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YOUR LETTERS

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Paul Orndorff didn't have many kind words for Roddy Piper on NBC's *Saturday Night's Main Event*.

WELCOME BACK, PAUL

I was watching *Saturday Night's Main Event* and I was really glad to see Paul Orndorff give Roddy Piper what he deserved.

I was one of Paul's fans when he was in the Georgia area. I was shocked when he turned on his fans when he came up to the WWF. Now it seems that he's finally seen the light again.

And to you, Paul, I say, welcome back to where you belong!

DONNA HULL
Raytown, MO

DON'T CHANGE

An open letter to Tommy Rich:

In the June issue of *The Wrestler*, you said if the fans thought it would be best, you would turn rulebreaker again. Oh Tommy, any fan who would want that is a fool.

Believe me, I'd like nothing better than to see you take the NWA belt from that moronic excuse for a champion, Ric Flair, but if you did it as a rulebreaker, you'd be no better than he is. I couldn't even bear to see that happen.

Tommy, you can have your long championship reign, but please, I beg you, do it as the same honest man you are.

We the fans need you, and if you change, there's nothing for us to believe in anymore. We love you, Tommy. Please, please, please stay the same, and love us back.

TAMMY JEAN TIDWELL
Pinson, AL

SWEET SCIENCE

Thank you for that sensational story in your July issue about Rick Martel vs. Bob Backlund ("The Greatest AWA Title Match Ever!"). It made me feel very good to see both these great athletes finally getting a scientific match against each other. I was at that card, and believe me, the Martel-Backlund match was one of the most exciting bouts I've ever seen.

A match like this one proves that



Wrestling fans found the Rick Martel-Bob Backlund match a nice contrast to some of the wrestling they've been seeing lately.

Bob Backlund was right to get out of the WWF when he did. Bob's a wrestler, not a circus clown, and only clown's, bad actors, and buffoons are allowed to appear in Vince McMahon's three-ring circus.

Congratulations to Bob and to Rick Martel, a true champion who isn't afraid to wrestle any type of challenger. And congratulations to *The Wrestler* for covering this really superb event. Keep up the good work!

CHAD LINDSTROM
St. Paul, MN

(Continued on page 47)

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IDENTITY WHAT'S HAPPENING!

By BILL APTER

A NIGHTMARE CAN be dark. It can be ugly. It can also be masked, as **Terry Taylor** found out. Terry lost the North American title on May 22 to a masked wrestler who calls himself **The Nightmare**. And to make things even more horrible, the cause of Terry's defeat was a conspiracy that included **Eddie Gilbert** and NWA World champion **Ric Flair**.

The story unfolds around an offer Flair made to Gilbert and The Nightmare, whom Gilbert advises. As North American champion, Terry was in the number one position in the Mid-South for a shot at Flair. Flair had a run-in with Taylor recently in which Taylor reversed Flair's figure-four leglock and made Flair yell "I quit." Unfortunately for Terry, that was during an unscheduled melee, and not a match for the title. After the incident, Flair made it clear that he did not want any part of Taylor.

Noting that The Nightmare had an upcoming title match against Taylor, Flair offered the pair \$10,000 if they could win the North American belt and force Taylor out of the number one challenger's spot. A few days later, Gilbert and Flair were at ringside for the



Terry Taylor, sporting a bandage on his injured head, was the victim of a conspiracy by Ric Flair, Eddie Gilbert, and The Nightmare.

title match between The Nightmare and Taylor.

From the outset of the match, it was obvious that Terry would have little trouble. Then trouble set in. On one side of the ring, Gilbert climbed onto the apron. Terry dragged him into the ring. As the referee tried to break them apart, Flair handed The Nightmare a weapon that he inserted into his mask. With Gilbert ejected from

the ring, The Nightmare simply headbutted Terry, knocking him senseless, and pinned him. The Nightmare got the belt, he and Gilbert split the money, and Flair got Taylor out of contention—for the moment. I say for the moment only because Flair made an agreement with The Nightmare that when he won the North American belt, he would not challenge Flair for the title. So, Mid-South officials were only too happy to honor this agreement and give the upcoming shot to the number one contender—Terry Taylor!

Jerry Lawler is fuming. He lost his crown! The beautiful jeweled headpiece was stolen by **Bruiser Brody** after Lawler was brutally beaten by Brody and **Kareem Muhammad** in Memphis. "That crown is a part of me," Lawler said. "It's a symbol of what the fans think of me. They made me their king, so I would run scum like Brody and Muhammad out of wrestling. My pride has been hurt. If they don't return it soon, somebody is going to get burnt." Lawler meant that in the literal sense. Although he doesn't like to do it, Lawler has mastered the science of throwing
(Continued on page 58)

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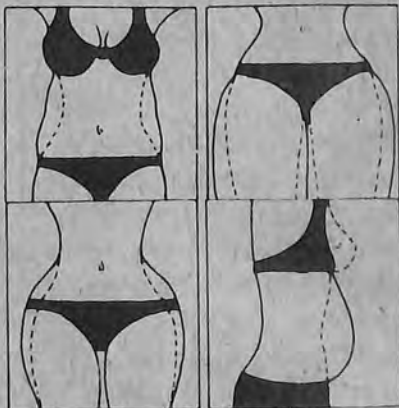
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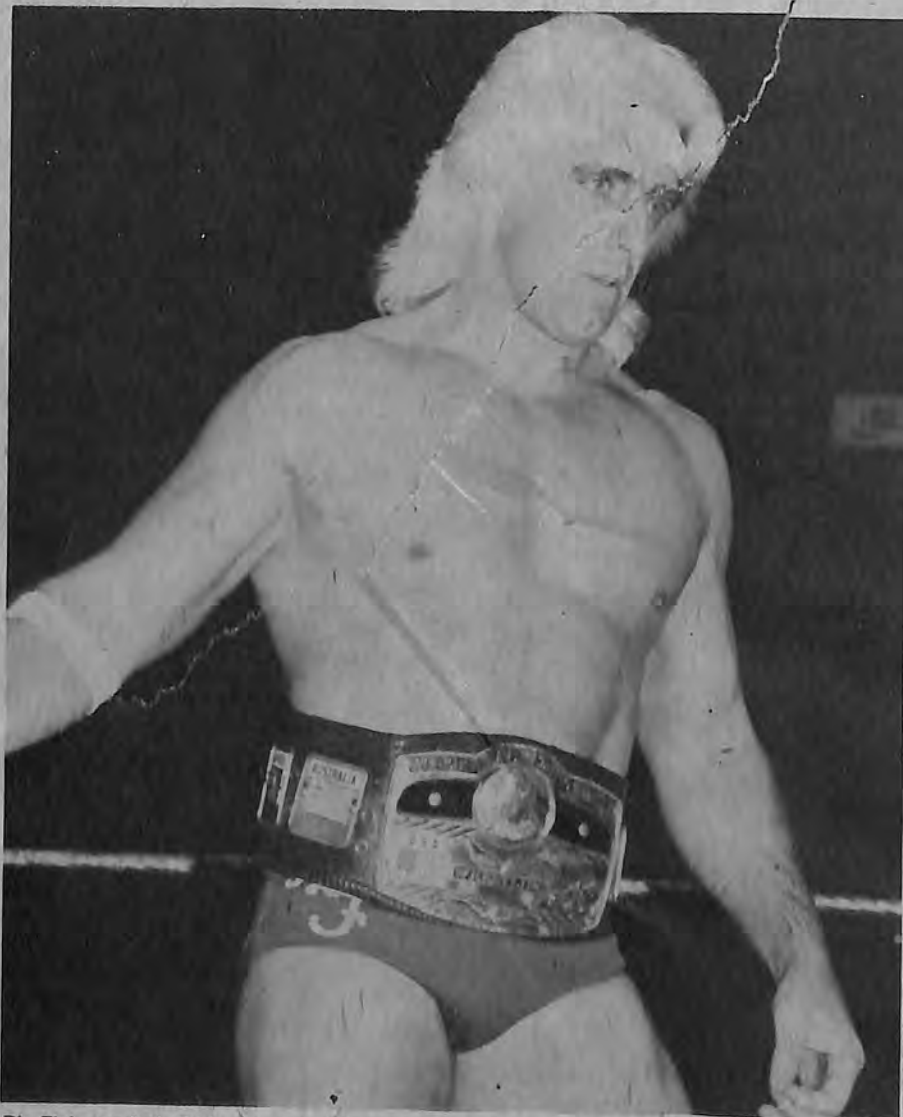
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REPORTS



Ric Flair needed all his ring savvy to escape Houston with his NWA World title belt after his match with Terry Taylor.

Houston (Correspondent—Scott Williams): The match between Terry Taylor and Ric Flair at the Sam Houston Coliseum proved just how valuable championship experience can be.

Flair used his knowledge to

wear down his challenger in the early part of the match. It was fairly even until the champion threw his challenger through the ropes. When the action returned to the ring, it was Flair on the offensive. Taylor showed some

good counterholds, but he was too weakened to mount a sustained offensive. Flair whipped Taylor into the ropes and caught him with a beautiful elbowsmash to set up the win.

In other matches, Steve "Dr. Death" Williams & Ted DiBiase beat The Rock 'n' Roll Express for the Mid-South tag team titles ... Kamala defeated Kerry Von Erich with some help from Gino Hernandez ... The Barbarian & Hacksaw Duggan fought to a no-contest ... Jake Roberts defeated Steve Casey.

Philadelphia (Correspondent—Bob Pivoroff): Hulk Hogan's WWF title match against Paul Orndorff gave Philadelphia fans their first indication that Orndorff was changing his ways.

Hogan had control throughout the match and finished off his challenger with a devastating legdrop and a pin. In a show of sportsmanship, Orndorff offered Hogan a handshake. A confused Hogan shook Orndorff's hands to the cheers of the fans. Orndorff gave Hogan and the fans a "thumbs up."

In other matches, Rick Steamboat & Jimmy Snuka won a \$50,000 tag team battle royal ... Barry Windham & Mike Rotundo defeated Nikolai Volkoff & The Iron Sheik in a non-title match ... Tito Santana & David Sammartino

(Continued on page 56)

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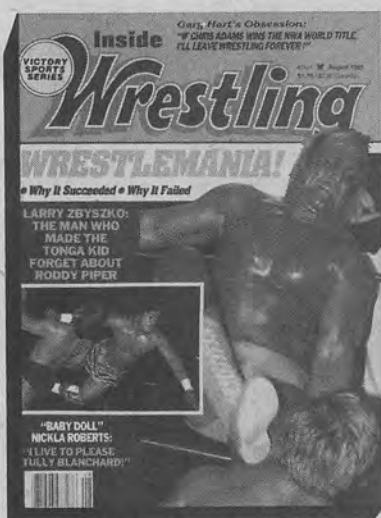
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Q: "I would like you to ask Hacksaw Butch Reed why he changed his style when he came into the AWA. We expected to see a scientific wrestler, but instead we see a man who breaks the rules and seems to love to hurt his opponents."—Sid Neely, Denver

A: Butch Reed became furious when we asked him your question, but he did respond. "I was more than ready to follow the rules in the AWA," Reed claims, "but the fans had it in for me. They were talking behind my back and saying things

YOU ASKED US

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Butch Reed has certain goals in the AWA, and he doesn't care what the fans think of him or his methods.

about me that were full of prejudice. So I decided why should I try to please a bunch of toothless farmers? I'm here to be a success, and if the AWA fans don't like me, it's their tough luck."

Q: "My question is for Magnum T.A.: Since you came to the Mid-Atlantic area, you have won the U.S. title from Wahoo McDaniel and you're now the number one contender for Ric Flair's NWA title. What do you think your chances are against Flair?"—Jay Dotson, Manassas, VA

A: "I believe my chances against Flair are excellent," T.A. says. "Flair is a great champion, but it's time for the younger lions to start ruling the den. I have youth, speed, and strength on my side. And I also know I can expect the support of

the fans. I am really very confident that I can beat Flair and win his title."

Q: "I would like to know from Hulk Hogan what he considers to have been his toughest match."—Richie Lewis, Chicago

A: "Well, there are a lot of tough dudes in the WWF who want to take The Hulkster's title," Hogan said, "but the meanest one of all is Magnificent Muraco. This dude believes in the forces of darkness, and he's given me some very tough moments. But with all my Hulkamaniacs behind me, Hulkamania will run wild, and what's Muraco gonna do when Hulkamania gets him?"

Q: "Could you ask Kerry Von Erich if he would consider taking Chris Adams back as his friend if he promised to change his ways."—Dedira Creason, Pryor, OK

A: "I believe in forgiving someone if that person is really sorry about what he did," Von Erich said.



Kerry Von Erich brings a right hand up from his hip to hit Chris Adams. Although Kerry is a forgiving man by nature, he does not see any hope of ever reconciling with Adams.

"But it doesn't look like Chris is sorry at all about what he did to me and my brothers. In fact, he seems downright proud about it. Actually, Dedira, it's a little premature for me to even consider your question. Right now, I dislike Chris so much, I don't think we could ever be friends again."

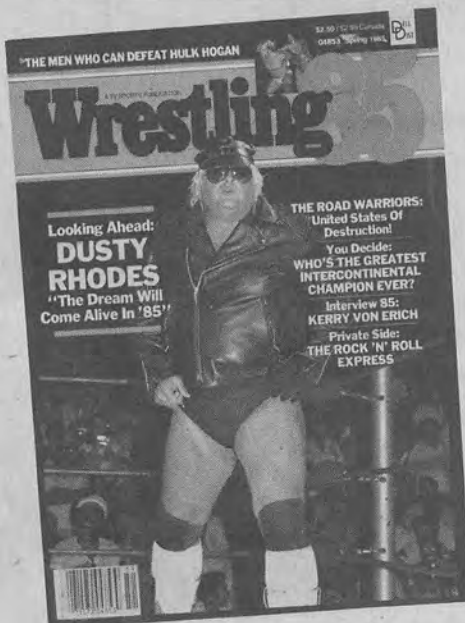
Q: "I have a question for Chris Adams: If you were forced to team with one of the Von Erichs, which one would it be and why?"—Billy Ellis, Norman Park, GA

A: "That's a question that even makes me sick to contemplate," Adams said. "But contrary to what most people believe, I am still friendly with one of the Von Erichs. So I would team with my friend, the only Von Erich who can be trusted, the only Von Erich who has any wrestling talent. I'm talking, of course, about Fluffy Von Erich, Kerry's smelly French poodle. He's

(Continued on page 52)

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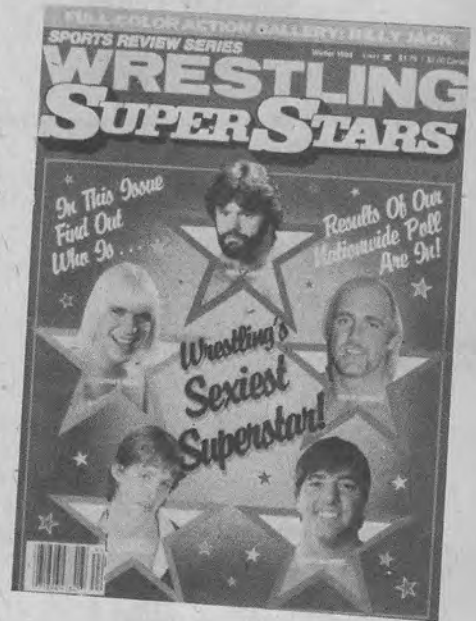
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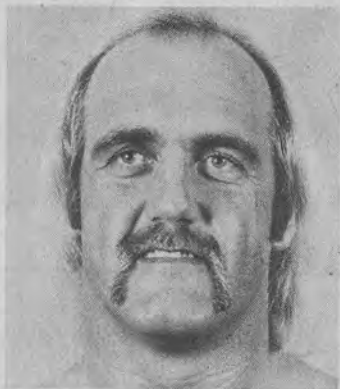
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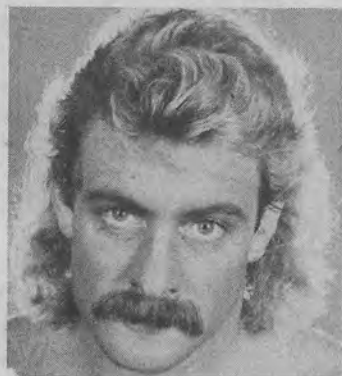
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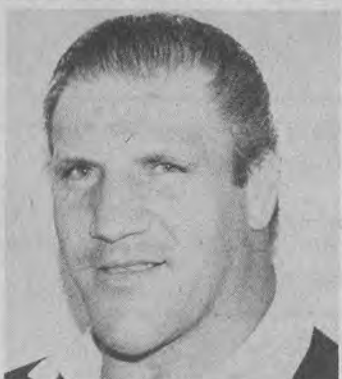
Each issue, *The Wrestler* will praise the noteworthy and damn those who violate the honor of wrestling. The praiseworthy receive a Thumbs Up, the disgraceful are marked with a Thumbs Down. Here is this month's roll of honor and shame.



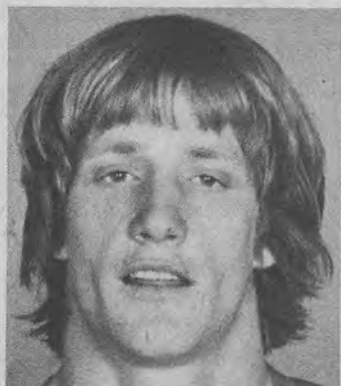
Thumbs Up to Hulk Hogan: A month after being badly outwrestled by Magnificent Muraco, Hogan returned to that same Madison Square Garden ring and, to the cheers of the near-capacity crowd, performed quite well against the Magnificent One. Despite being sneak-attacked by Muraco, Hogan was able to turn the match to his favor with various power maneuvers. After Muraco suffered a deep gash on his forehead, The Hulkster showed no mercy and was well on his way to a clear-cut pin when Muraco resorted to throwing salt in the WWF champ's eyes and was disqualified.



Thumbs Up to Magnum T.A.: The popular NWA U.S. champion was at ringside during a recent *World Championship Wrestling* television show when NWA World champion Ric Flair kept the figure-four leglock applied to his opponent for what seemed far longer than necessary. Magnum jumped into the ring and forced Flair to break the hold, which started a shoving match between the two champions. Thumbs up to Magnum for showing Flair how a champion behaves.



Thumbs Up to Bruno Sammartino: The "Living Legend" made a triumphant return to Madison Square Garden and demonstrated to the crowd what a champion wrestler is all about. Teamed with his son David against Brutus Beefcake and Johnny Valiant, Bruno showed he has lost none of the power and skill that had made him this generation's greatest and most successful wrestler. It must have been a tremendous feeling for David to step into the ring with his father by his side.

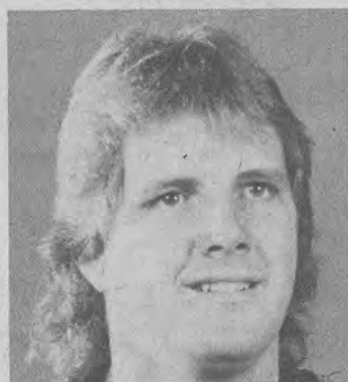


Thumbs Up to Kevin Von Erich: The oldest Von Erich brother had a chance of a lifetime on the big Parade Of Champions card in Dallas when he wrestled NWA champion Ric Flair. Although Kevin had to settle for a draw, he proved to himself—and the 30,000 people in attendance—that he is capable of defeating the crafty champion on any given night. This burst of self-confidence should help Kevin in all of his future title matches.

Thumbs Down



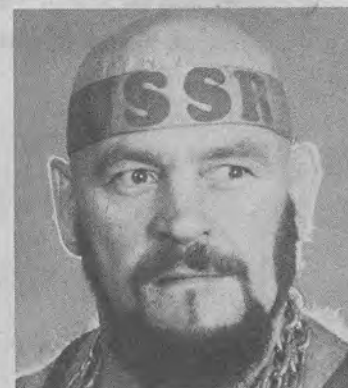
Thumbs Down to Cyndi Lauper: There's simply no excuse for Lauper's allowing men like Roddy Piper, Iron Sheik, and Nikolai Volkoff to appear in one of her music videos. We thought she hated those three notorious rulebreakers, but apparently she would do anything to help bolster her career, even if it means selling out. And the same is true for Piper, Sheik, and Volkoff. As one of Lauper's songs puts it, "Money changes everything." It looks as if Lauper and her WWF friends will do *anything* if the price is right.



Thumbs Down to Chris Adams: We had hoped that the "Gentleman" from Stratford, England, would begin to straighten himself out after he fired his manager, Gary Hart, but the opposite has happened. Adams is more obsessed than ever with exacting revenge from the Von Erichs in general, and he has engaged in some hideous matches with Kerry Von Erich in particular. It's time we all faced the fact: Chris Adams is simply a badly confused young man who may be beyond saving.



Thumbs Down to Ken Patera: Patera seems to be out of place in the WWF these days, and perhaps that is what is making the self-proclaimed "World's Strongest Man" so frustrated. Still, there is no excuse for Patera to be even attempting to cut off what's left of Hulk Hogan's hair. Patera should order his manager, Bobby Heenan, to get him some main-event matches. If Heenan can't, then perhaps Patera should do what Paul Orndorff recently did: fire "The Brain."



Thumbs Down to Ivan Koloff: "The Russian Bear" has made it plain that the upcoming Nikita Koloff vs. Ric Flair match is a battle to see which country, Russia or the U.S., is superior. Koloff has been in the U.S. long enough and has earned enough American dollars to know that this is the greatest country in the world. Even if his nephew wins, it can't change that fact, and deep inside, Ivan Koloff must know it.

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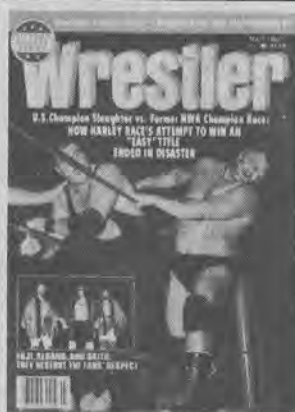
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MARCH 1982

February 1979/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

July 1979/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

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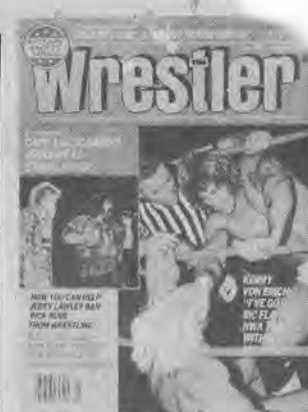
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June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.



JANUARY 1985

August 1980/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

October 1980/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.

November 1980/Stories include: Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.

January 1981/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

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October 1981/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

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January 1982/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

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May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

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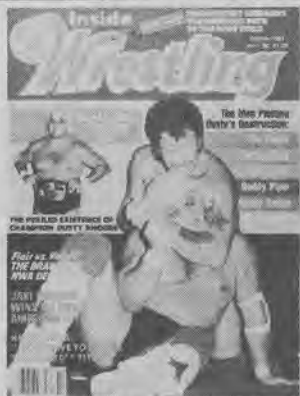
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July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

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September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.



DECEMBER 1984

October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.

November 1979/Stories include: Snuka, Heenan, Race, Backlund.

February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.

March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

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June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

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February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

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March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

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May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.

January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

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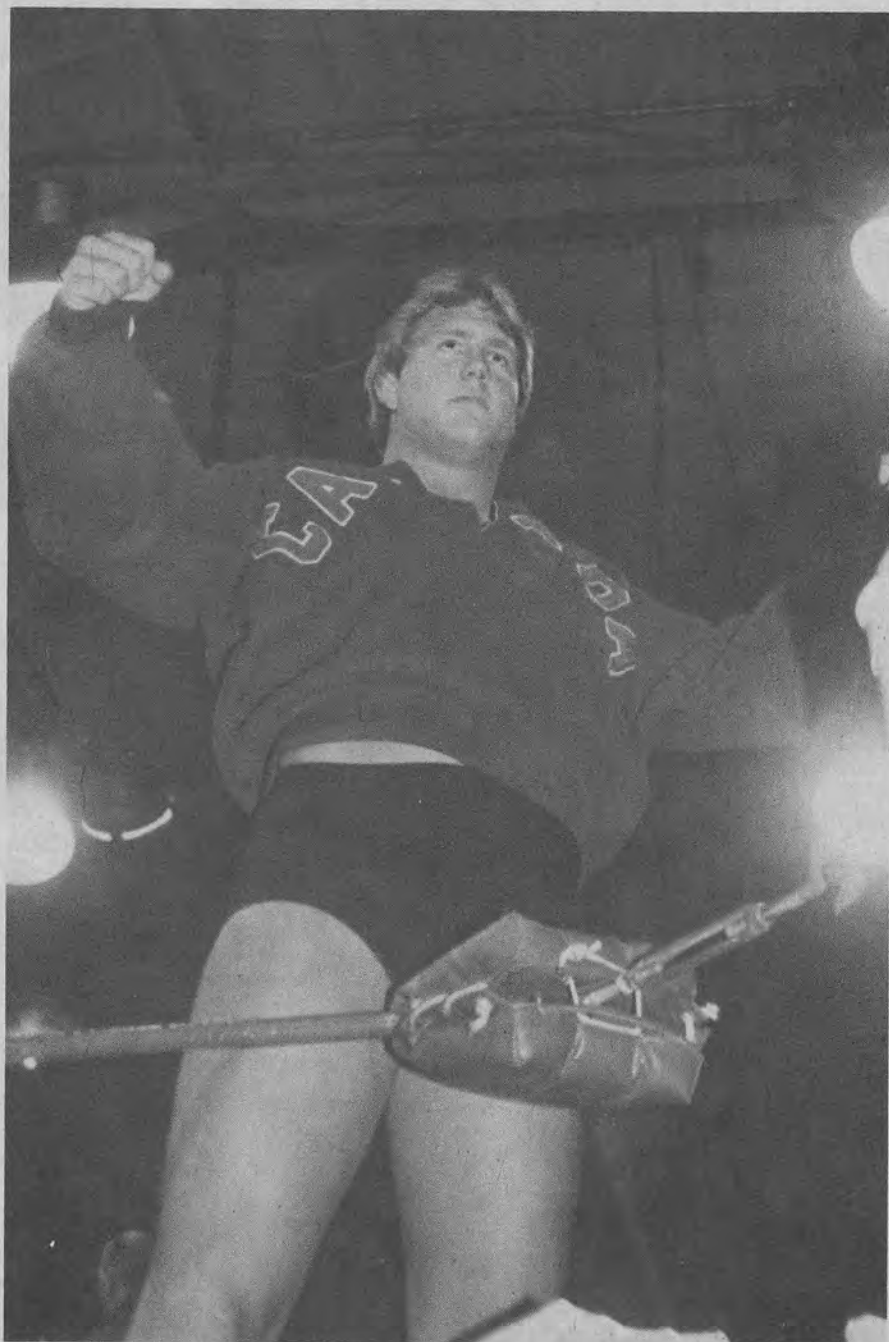
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INTRODUCING NICK KINISKI

Nick Kiniski isn't intimidated by comparisons between him and his father, Gene, the former NWA World champion. In fact, he welcomes them. Because by the time his career is over, he plans to be remembered as Gene Kiniski's superior!



“MY DAD ALWAYS thought I was stupid. He'd say to me, 'Don't go into wrestling. When they find out you're Gene Kiniski's son, you have to be just as good as I was.' Well, I told Dad I didn't want to be just as good as he was. I was going to be better!”

That's how it all started for 24-year-old Nick Kiniski. Yes, his father, the former NWA World heavyweight champion, tried to discourage him. He should have known better; Gene had tried to discourage Nick's older brother, Kelly, from turning pro a few years earlier and he was unsuccessful then, too.

Nick won his first wrestling title as a fifth-grader in Blaine, Washington, and his interest in the sport never diminished. He went on to win the Washington State amateur title three years in a row while in high school, and he always hoped that his amateur training would one day lead to a professional career.

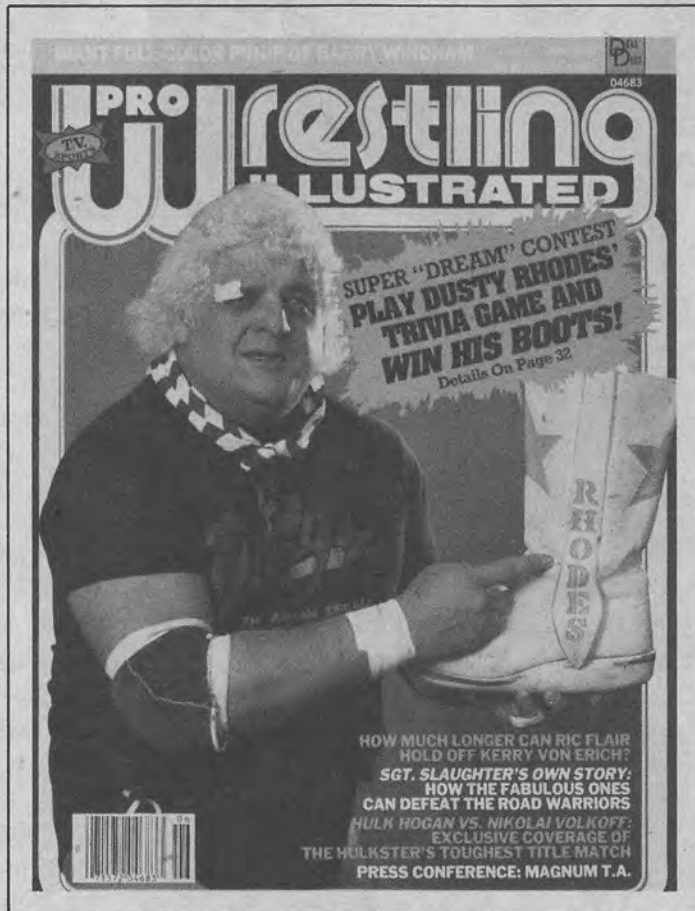
“Dad had always told me how tough the sport was,” Nick recalls. “He told me I would be on the road night after night, and the pace would be grueling. He was happy I turned down a chance to turn pro and went to college instead.”

Though Nick went to Simon Fraser college in Barnaby, British Columbia, on a football and wrestling scholarship, he was very serious about his geography major as well. “Dad hoped my

(Continued on page 20)

Photos by Buddy Myers

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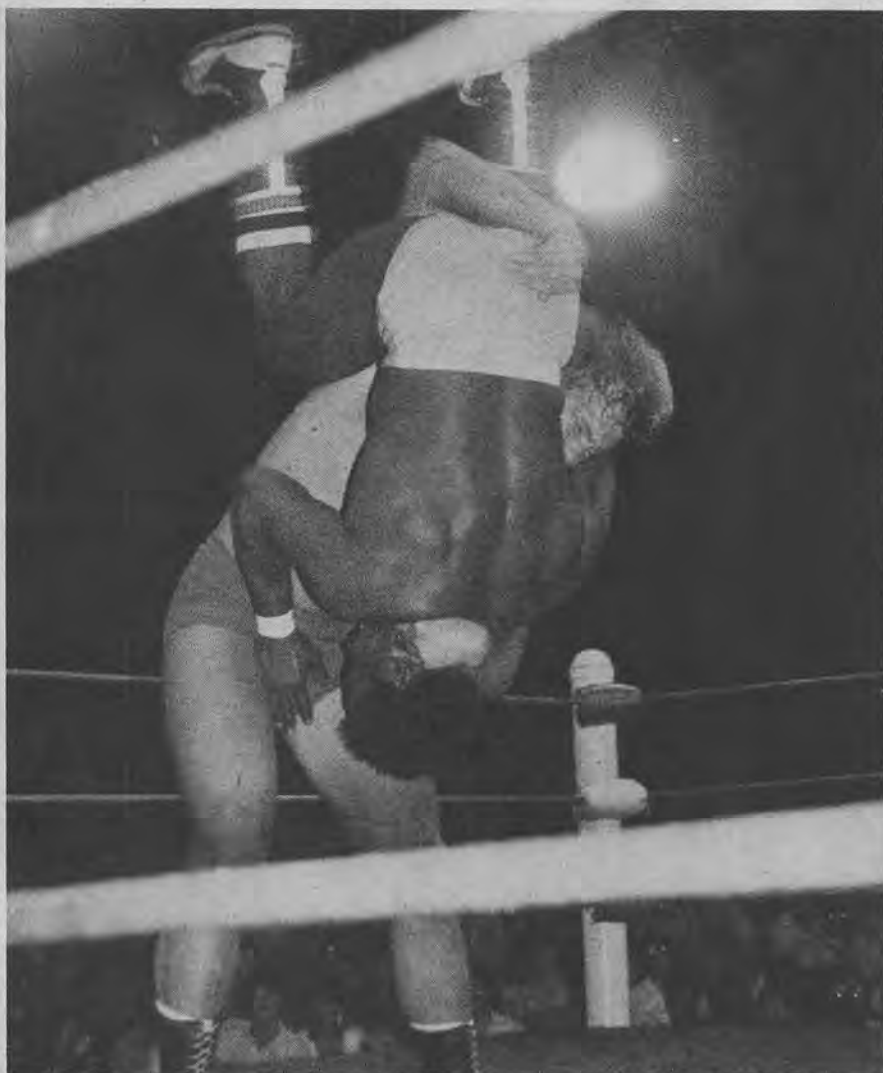
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INTRODUCING

(Continued from page 18)



Kiniski puts all his muscle behind a bodyslam against Sweet Brown Sugar. Although his father, Gene, the ex-NWA champion, tried to discourage Nick from turning pro, it seems that this 24-year-old was born to wrestle.

studies would make me forget sports."

It didn't. In college, Nick became even more determined to become a pro wrestler. He came in fifth in the World Amateur championships and in 1984 was chosen as an alternate on the Canadian Olympic team.

Gene Kiniski vividly remembers the day his son told him that he had decided to turn pro. "Yeah, I remember the day," Gene said. "He came to me and told me he was gonna wrestle professionally like Kelly. I knew it was bound to happen, so I gave him some sound advice. I told him not to forget what a good athlete he is and to keep his body and mind sound at all times."

With his brother Kelly at ringside, Nick stepped into the ring on January

12, 1984, in Hugo, Oklahoma, for his pro debut. His opponent was veteran Buck "Rock 'n' Roll" Zumhofe.

"I was shocked when I got into the ring," Nick recalls. "The fans were booing me. It got me real mad, and it got Kelly mad, too." The match did not go well for young Nick. Zumhofe had the lead throughout the match, and when it finally turned into a pier-six brawl, the referee disqualified them both. Kelly came charging into the ring, and, in true Kiniski style, they double-teamed Buck and fled the ring.

"My brother's debut was what some people might call unsuccessful," Kelly Kiniski said, "but he made his mark. Opponents now realize the Kiniski family stands by each other no matter

what."

Kelly and Nick have teamed on occasion in the World Class area, wrestling fan favorites and rulebreakers alike. Nick has also traveled west to wrestle for Lone Star Sports Promotions in San Antonio.

"I wrestled a few matches against some rulebreaker and the fans really took to me," Kelly says. "Soon I became good friends with 'Lightning' Paul Diamond and we decided to team. As you know, my dad's nickname was 'Big Thunder,' so I kinda stole a bit from him, and Paul and I are now billed as 'Lightning and Thunder.'"

The team scored its most impressive victory when it defeated The Wild Maoris, current Lone Star Promotions tag team champions, in a non-title affair. "Now they have to give us a title match," Nick says. "We're ready."

How much potential does young Nick Kiniski have? Remember, he says he wants to be better than his father, and Gene Kiniski held the NWA title for more than three years. "Can Nick Kiniski be as good as his old man was?" Gene asks. "Well, right now it's a little too early to tell. He does have that Kiniski fire though. He can brawl with the best of them. I think one problem with him is that he loses his temper just a bit too fast. I made that mistake and it cost me quite a few matches early in my career.

"But he's young yet. In time, he'll learn tricks of the trade, and he'll learn that there are ways to accomplish things without ever having to lose your temper."

By saying that, Gene is implying that his son will learn how to bend the rules without the referee knowing it. At this point, though, it is unclear whether Nick Kiniski will pursue his goals as a fan favorite or a rulebreaker. "I don't like labels like that," he said. "I wrestle to win, and that's it. If the fans want to cheer me, fine, I appreciate it. But if not, that's okay, too. I'm a winner either way." □



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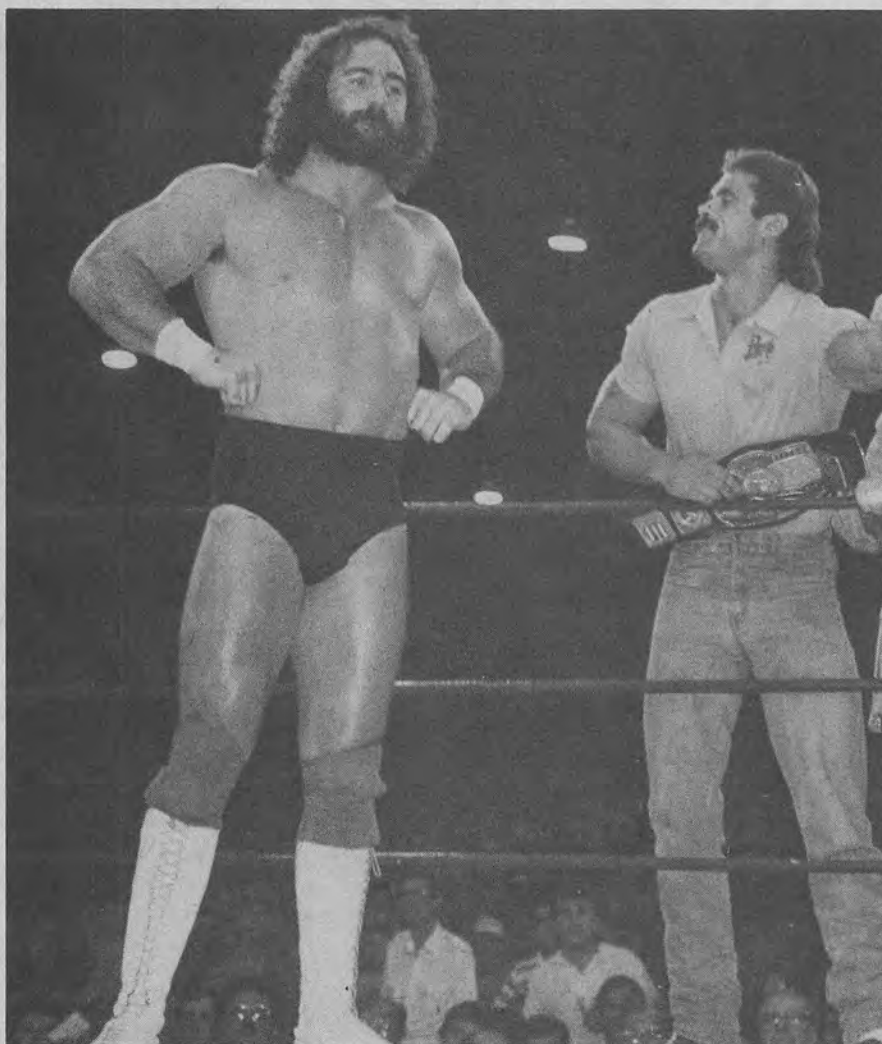
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Q&A

Each month, *The Wrestler* will present a "Question and Answer" forum with an important figure in the wrestling world. It is your chance to meet wrestling's biggest stars as they answer the questions uppermost in the fans' minds



Q: Hercules Hernandez—what the heck is going on with you, buddy?

A: The first thing going on with me is that I am certainly no buddy of yours. Okay?

Q: "Buddy" is a figure of speech, like, 'hey man.' I didn't mean anything by it.

A: Just ask me questions. I'll answer them. Save your figures of speech for your daughter's English class. I don't have time for small talk.

Q: Okay, okay. Well, one of our sister publications, *Sports Review Wrestling*, named you "Wrestler of the Month" for July because of the way you bucked your rulebreaking brethren and came to the aid of Sunshine in her fight against rulebreakers. What do you think of that at this time?

A: I think you guys were as stupid as everyone else.

Q: But you gave every indication that you were changing your ways. You were fighting against Rip Oliver, Jim Cornette, and The Midnight Express. You even had ties to the Von Erichs. You seemed to enjoy your new identity.

A: I enjoyed it because it was so much fun to fool everyone. You fail to mention that I never severed my relationship with Skandor Akbar. That I never was actually quoted as to why I was fighting with Sunshine. That I never signed a contract or issued any kind of public statement whatsoever. People be-

HERCULES HERNANDEZ

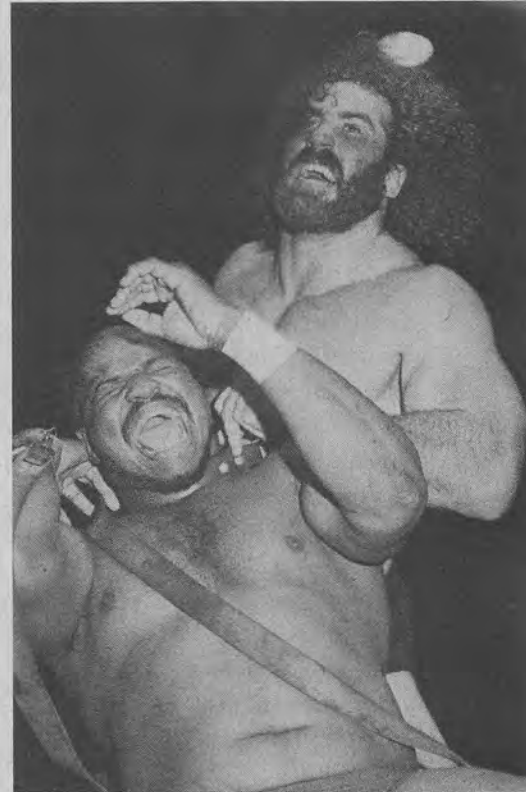


THE LAST THREE months have been busy ones in the career of Hercules Hernandez. In a move that shocked much of the wrestling world, Hernandez joined Sunshine's crusade to rid the World Class area of its rulebreakers and fought loyally by her side until the day of the second annual David Von Erich Parade of Champions. Sunshine's feature match was to pit Hernandez and Kabuki against Gino Hernandez and Chris Adams, but Hernandez never showed up. Although he never said anything to Sunshine, his absence was statement enough.

He surfaced in Florida, again very much the rulebreaker, and defeated Brian Blair for the Southern heavyweight championship. Senior Editor Bill Apter spoke to Hernandez about his fluctuating career and what the future might have in store for him.



Hernandez duped Sunshine into believing that he would help her in her fight against rulebreakers in Texas (above). The last time Hernandez was in Texas, he battled such favorites as Iceman Parsons (right).



lieve what they want to believe. Most people are very stupid.

Q: Not Jim Cornette?

A: No, not Jim Cornette. He was the one who suggested that I join forces with Sunshine. At first I thought he was joking, because I really didn't believe that Sunshine would fall for something so obvious. But he kept saying to me, "watch and see. She'll believe anything, that dingy broad." And he was right. I just wish I could have seen the look on her face when I didn't show up at the Texas Stadi-

um card.

Q: She was quite shocked, let me assure you. Don't you feel that you at least owe her an explanation?

A: An explanation? Ha, ha, ha. That's not bad, not bad at all. You're pretty funny.

Q: How long ago had you signed with Percy Pringle?

A: That's nobody's business.

Q: Why is that such a difficult question to answer?

A: Like I said, that's not anyone's business. It's enough to know that I am now managed by Percy

Pringle. I am a proud member of the Pringle Dynasty.

Q: It didn't take you long to establish a reputation down in Florida. A few weeks and you win the Southern heavyweight title.

A: I should have walked in and won that title the first night I was here. I told Percy that I don't have a lot of patience. I want titles. I want money. And I'm not gonna putter around in little five and dime matches. Who did I beat for the Southern title?

Q: Brian Blair.



Hernandez sneers at the fans as he applies a half Boston crab (above). Hercules backs Blackjack Muligan into the ropes (right) and beats the cowboy in a test of strength (below right).



A: Right. What a joke that was. He was some little wimpy guy and he was called champion. It's amazing what's wrestling out there today. Look at me. I'm the strongest man in wrestling today. I have a body that men would kill to have and women would kill to hold. Together with Percy Pringle I will soon be a world champion.

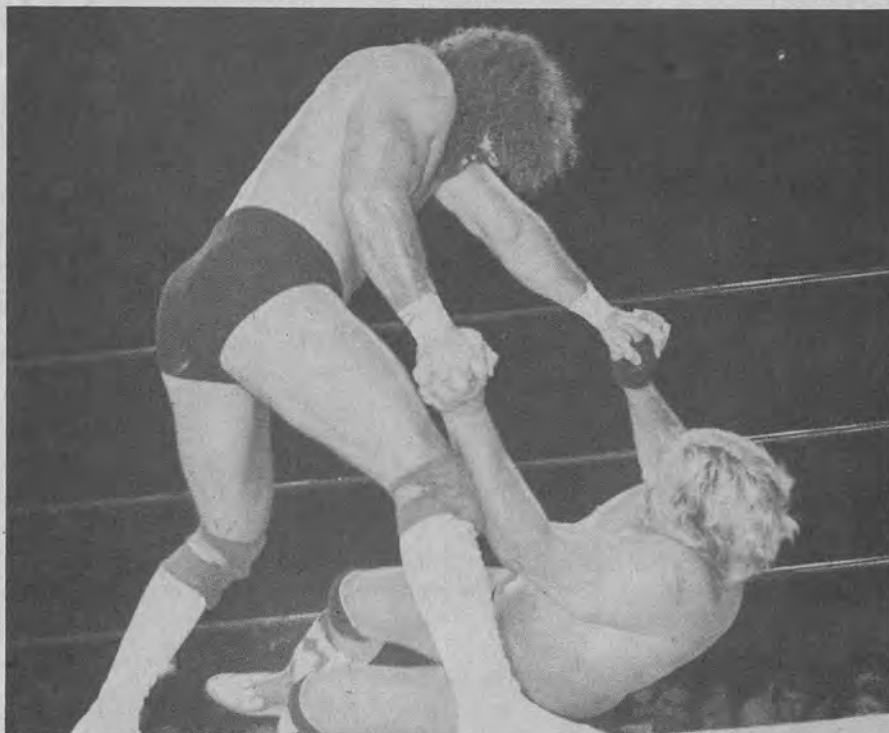
Q: So, your next goal is the NWA title?

A: Goals, goals, goals. All you people think of is goals. My only goal is to destroy whoever is placed before me in the ring. The rest takes care of itself. The reason I aligned myself with Percy Pringle is so that he could get me the important matches. My time is too important to worry about such stuff.

Q: Having employed three different managers in a relatively short amount time, who do you consider the better manager, Cornette, Pringle, or Akbar?

A: They've all provided me with different services at different stages of my career. It's impossible to judge who was better than who. Nor is it necessary. I remain friendly with all of them and can rely on their advice if I ever need it.

Q: When you were with Sunshine, didn't it feel good to once hear the



crowd on your side? Didn't you enjoy being cheered?

A: The fans mean nothing to me. They'll turn on you like month-old milk, and anyone who relies on the fans for support is really using them as a crutch. Losers are cheered. Everyone I fight is cheered. I win my matches in three minutes, leave the ring, and collect my paycheck. The guy I beat is laid out on the mat in pain and he is cheered. Would you rather walk

out of the ring with a championship belt around your waist and get booed, or crawl out, broken and battered; and get cheered?

Q: How do you feel about the other wrestlers in the Pringle Dynasty?

A: Now there's the first intelligent question you've asked today. Rick Rude and Jesse Barr are the U.S. tag team champions. I am the Southern heavyweight champion. The three of us complement each others' ring styles and lifestyles,

and Percy Pringle is the perfect conductor. Eventually the three of us will dominate the entire sport.

Q: Do you really expect to dominate the entire sport? I feel that wrestling has become so competitive lately that no one man or team can dominate it anymore.



Hernandez has gotten a lot of advice from manager Jim Cornette. Cornette apparently was responsible for the trick Hercules played on Sunshine.

A: Have you seen me wrestle lately?

Q: Well, no, actually I have not.

A: Then what the hell are you talking about? You haven't even seen me wrestle and you make a statement like that. What kind of a reporter are you?

Q: I don't have to see everyone in the world wrestle to make a statement like that, do I?

A: Until you see me wrestle I have nothing further to say. I knew there was a reason I hate to give interviews. I'm talking to a guy who has never seen me wrestle . . .

Q: Of course I've seen you wrestle. I just haven't seen you wrestle lately.

A: I don't believe this. I got a plane to catch. let me out of here.

Q: Thank you Hercules Hernandez for a most frank and revealing interview.

A: I don't believe this. I really don't. ☐

Wrestling 85

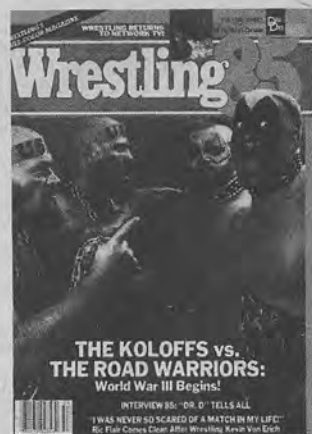
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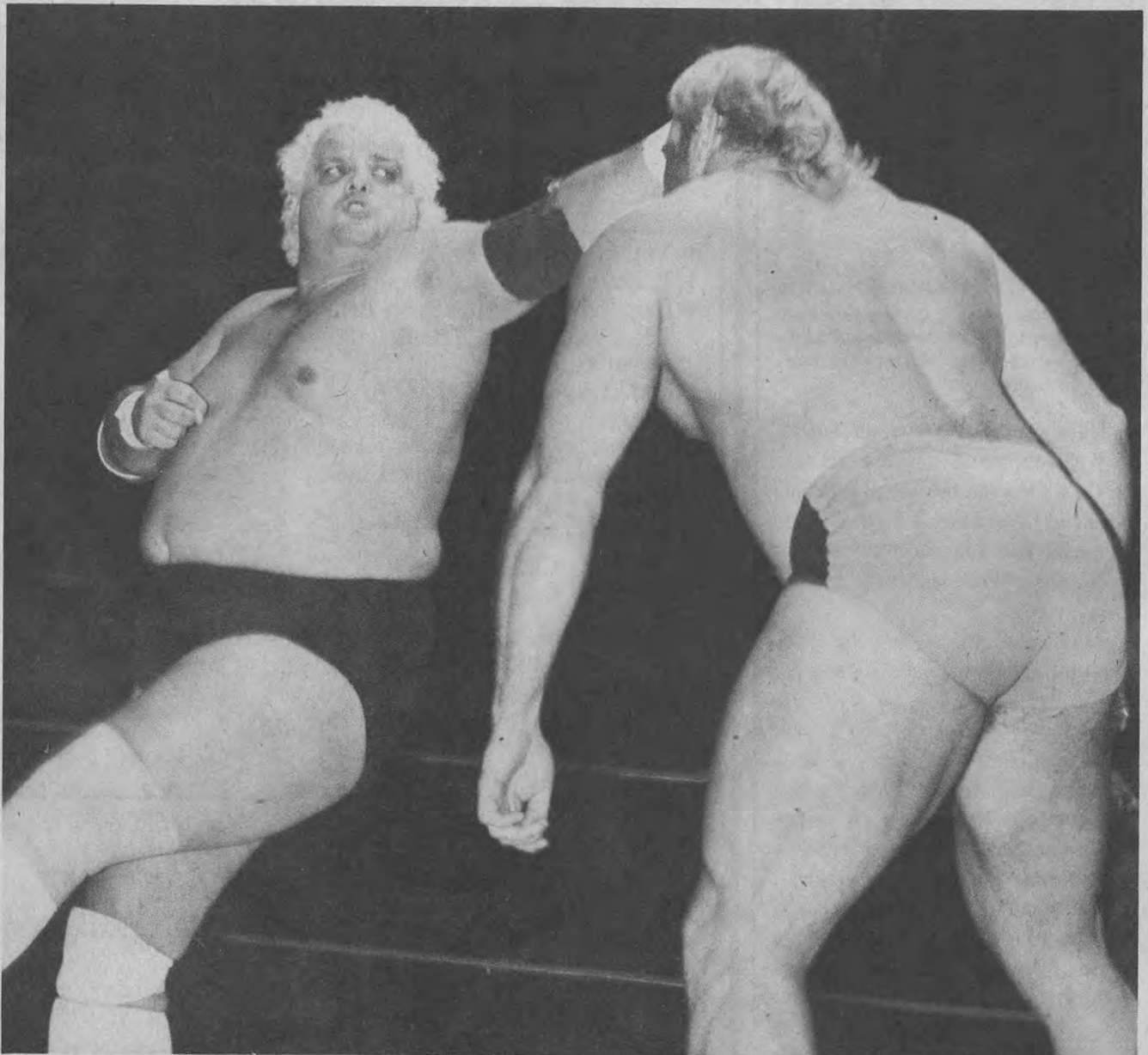
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The Wind Up And The Pitch: Dusty Rhodes sets up Kevin Sullivan with his left hand and fires his mighty right fist into "The Prince of Darkness' " face. Dusty Rhodes has been a dominant force in wrestling for the past 15 years. He has won the NWA World title twice and he is a top contender right now. Perhaps he would be more effective at a lighter weight, but he wouldn't be Dusty Rhodes anymore.



BRUNO SAMMARTINO

"I can't argue with Rhodes' success, although I do have many criticisms of him as a wrestler. I believe that he has tremendous natural skills, but that he has never worked hard enough in the gym to get his body in solid shape. He has size, strength, and good speed, and he uses these assets very well. As I said, you have to give him credit for all that he's attained, but consider how much greater he could have been if he was in better shape."

Bruno Sammartino is known as wrestling's "Living Legend." He is the most popular wrestler to ever hold the WWF title.



TERRY FUNK

"X-Ray Dusty Rhodes? Is there an X-Ray machine big enough for a whale to fit in to? C'mon, give me a break, I just ate lunch. When I was NWA champion, I must've wrestled Dusty a dozen times, maybe more. He sashays into the ring, the fans go crazy, and then it's all downhill for The Dream from there. Admittedly, he's tough, he knows wrestling, but there's a way to avoid losing to him. Just don't let that tub of lard sit on you."

Terry Funk has held the NWA World championship, the Missouri State title, and a number of other regional titles.



GENE KINISKI

"Dusty Rhodes could have been the greatest wrestler of his generation. He has size, strength, intelligence, heart, and amazing quickness. Early in his career, he also had that mental toughness to be able to do whatever he damn well pleased in the ring. The past 10 years, though, Dusty has decided that hearing the cheers of the crowd is more important than being great. He's gotten exactly what he deserves. Mediocrity."

Gene Kiniski is a rugged Canadian who was NWA World champion in the late 1960s.



BUDDY ROGERS

"Call me old-fashioned, call me a traditionalist, but I like wrestlers who fight like men and don't strut around the ring like they were Miss America. But I have to admit that Dusty is one tough customer, and his record is second to none. Plus he takes enormous punishment night after night and still comes back for more. Sure, he could be in a little better shape. But basically, he's successful, so why knock him?"

Buddy Rogers is the only man to hold both the NWA World title and the WWF title.



LOU THESZ

"I've had many talks with Dusty Rhodes about wrestling, and I find him to have one of the keenest minds when it comes to strategy. The man is an encyclopedia of wrestling holds and maneuvers, and he knows the style of every wrestler in the world. Some people pick on Dusty because he looks a little out of shape, but that's a big mistake. Dusty Rhodes is a great wrestler, and that's why he's held the NWA title twice."

Lou Thesz held the NWA World title six times during his fabulous 50-year career. Many consider him the greatest all-round wrestler in history.



VERNE GAGNE

"I respect any man who's been a world champion, and Dusty has been a world champion twice. He's wrestled in the AWA on numerous occasions, and I never saw him give anything less than 100 percent. I don't know if he'll ever win the world title again, but I can certainly say he's been one of the best wrestlers over the last 15 years. And he's earned everything he's ever gotten through hard work."

Verne Gagne held the AWA World title a record 11 times. He was voted "Best Scientific Wrestler" of the last 25 years by the wrestling media.

Gary Hart's Hair-Raising Story:

“ONE MAN GANG WILL SCALP KERRY VON ERICH!”

Having his head shaved by the Von Erichs stripped Gary Hart of his pride, not to mention his hair. He has vowed that his weighty charge, One Man Gang, will even the score

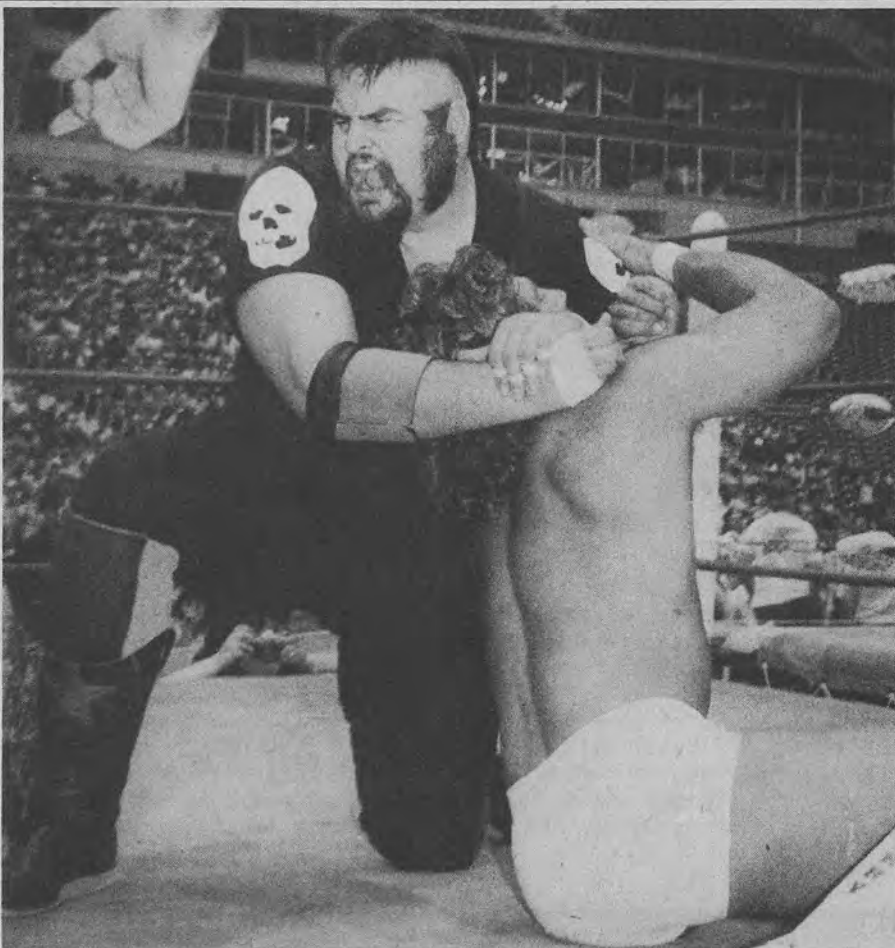
Photos by Buddy Myers

WE'VE ALL HEARD of the old prescription for justice “an eye for an eye,” but ever since Gary Hart was scalped by the Von Erichs, a new cry for revenge has echoed throughout World Class arenas.

While a “follicle for a follicle” might not have the same ring to it as the biblical homily, that has nevertheless been Hart's theme song ever since Kerry Von Erich defeated One Man Gang and earned the right to turn Gary Hart into Telly Savalas.

The match took place on David Von Erich's Memorial Parade of Champions—a card of wrestling fast gaining a reputation as featuring the strangest and most exciting matches of the year. This year's card saw a 12-man tag team match end in the shattering of the windshield of a 1986 Lincoln Continental; a championship tag team match end in controversy in *two* rings; and an NWA championship bout continue long after the bell had rung to end it.

The Kerry Von Erich-One Man Gang battle fit neatly into the day's



One Man Gang applies a chinlock, and his huge arms make it difficult for Kerry Von Erich to breathe.



Von Erich's iron claw takes much of the fight out of One Man Gang. Soon after, Kerry would score a popular—but controversial—victory.

activities. Handcuffed together at ring-side were Fritz Von Erich and Gary Hart, awaiting their own fates as well as the fates of their wrestlers. If One Man Gang won the match, then he and Gary Hart would get five minutes in the ring with the retired Fritz Von Erich. If Kerry came out the winner, then Hart would have to submit to the barber who couldn't say when.

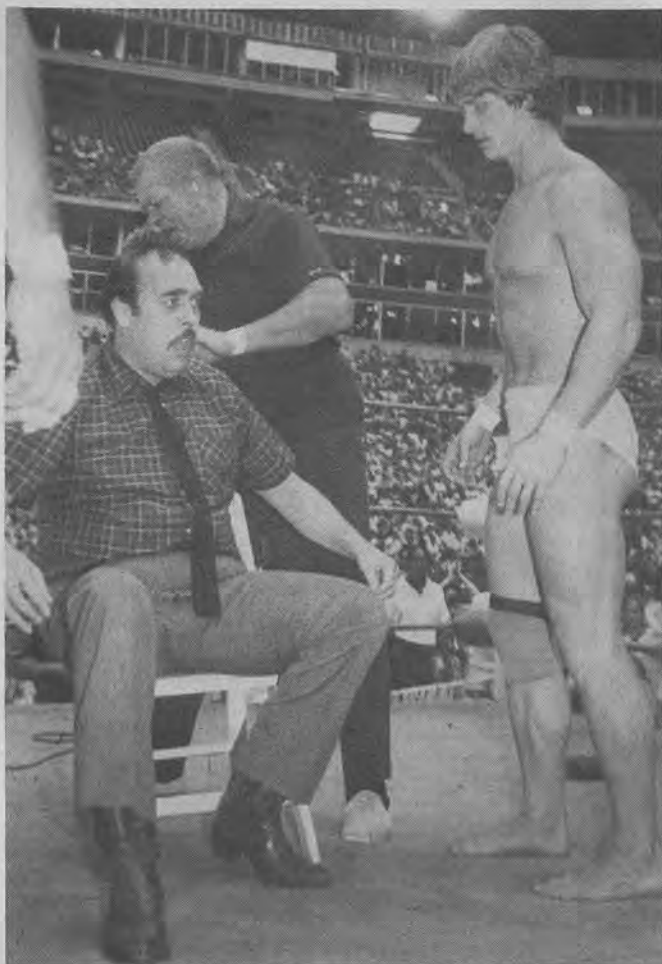
The match pitted a curious mixture of wrestling opposites—Kerry's strength and mobility against One Man Gang's immense mass and bulk, and for a while it appeared as if this battle of the immovable object vs. the irresistible force would end in an uneventful draw. Neither man seemed able to crack the other's style.

Suddenly, Kerry slipped out of a hold, came up from behind One Man Gang, and to the surprise of the crowd and the amazement of OMG, grabbed the big man in the bodyslam position. But before he could hoist OMG off the ground, Hart slipped his hand into the ring and tripped Von Erich up. Fritz took this as his cue and started to



Fritz Von Erich and Gary Hart stayed handcuffed to each other throughout the match. Fritz, who had a lot more to lose than just his hair, appears to be the more nervous of the two (above). Brian Adidas and Kevin and Kerry Von Erich secure OMG to the ringpost after the match (below).





With his wrestler unable to help him, Gary Hart comes to the realization that he is going to lose the little hair that he has (above left). Fritz does the honors (above right).

punch Hart in the head.

Meanwhile, One Man Gang had mounted the ropes in preparation for his big splash (which, if delivered, would certainly have spelt the end for Kerry Von Erich) when Fritz reached in and tripped him. Kerry wasted no time in rolling Gang up for the pin, confirming Hart's appointment with an unfriendly set of shears.

As One Man Gang watched helplessly, handcuffed to the ringpost, the entire Von Erich family gleefully accompanied Hart into the center of the ring where he was given a cut and spit polish to the rowdy cheers of the fans.

The bald jokes were inevitable.

Observed Kerry Von Erich at the time, "Now if he goes out in the sun, everybody else'll have to wear sunglasses to protect against the reflection."

To which brother Mike added, "His head was was so dull anyway. I think Kerry did him a favor. Now he could plant tomatoes or apples up there. It'd

look better and be much more functional."

While Kevin Von Erich's two cents amounted to, "With or without hair, Hart still has nothing between his ears. He's such a weasel that he actually looks better with a dome."

The joke, as one might expect, is lost on Gary Hart. He responded to the Von Erich taunts with these words: "So, Kerry Von Erich thinks everything is a big joke, doesn't he? His daddy trips my man to win a match and then he's joined in the ring by his other two grotesque brothers. How nice! How family-like! All the young girls screaming Kerry! Kerry!

"I have news for you Kerry Von Erich. You're a big hulking stud when you're surrounded by your entire family and all your fans. But on your own you're nothing. Do you think you'll survive the effects of the big splash without your father there to help you? Not likely, Von Erich, not likely at all.

"You like your hair, don't you,

Kerry? You think you look real nice with that long mane down past your shoulders. One Man Gang will see to it that your hair will soon be in a plastic bag that I will display from one end of Texas to another. My pain and humiliation will be nothing compared to what you will go through."

Hart has gone so far as to commission One Man Gang to concentrate on nothing else but obtaining the scalp of Kerry Von Erich. Rumor has it that Hart will pay One Man Gang an extra \$25,000 beyond his regular salary if the big man can come up with Kerry's locks. The obsessive Gary Hart once again surfaces.

"I'm not obsessive," Hart said. "It gets to the point where you get sick of the name Von Erich. It's time for Kerry Von Erich to be shut up. And the only way to do that is get at their vanity—Kerry primps and preens in front of the mirror like a teenage girl. When I get his hair, he'll be too embarrassed to wrestle anymore." □

The Rock 'n' Roll Express



WILL THE MUSIC LIVE AGAIN?

It seemed not even gravity could contain the high-flying hijinks of The Rock 'n' Roll Express. But after losing their treasured Mid-South tag team belts to Ted DiBiase and Steve Williams, the question is whether their crash to earth is permanent

WHEN RICK MORTON and Robert Gibson did their thing—that is when they flew about and throughout their opponents like ice dancers around statues—they moved with such an other-worldly grace that it cast serious doubts as to who possessed their souls. Truly, these men were firing rockets while other wrestlers wore lead boots.

To call them a tag team seemed an unfair categorization. Other tag teams had to plan strategy, execute tags, and anticipate each other's moves. Ricky Morton and Robert Gibson became one person in the ring: No sooner would Morton look to tag off than Gibson would be hurtling over the ropes. Their teamwork was uncanny; so natural and effortless was their sense of communication that several wrestlers accused them of implanting tiny microphones in their skulls so they could read each other's thoughts.

Of course such accusations were ridiculous, but they demonstrated the enormous respect that other teams had for The Rock 'n' Roll Express. Carrying only 453 pounds between them, Gibson and Morton



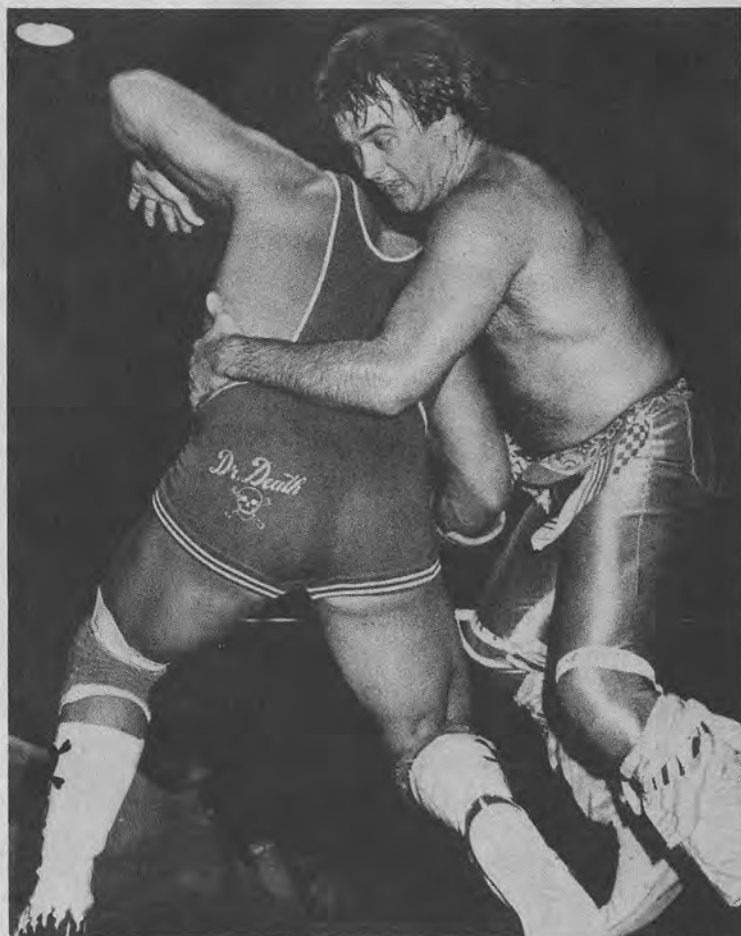
Steve "Dr. Death" Williams bends Rick Morton over his thigh (above). Morton and Gibson have looked somewhat depressed in their matches since losing the Mid-South tag team title (top left).

were able to dominate matches against opponents a hundred pounds heavier. Observed veteran wrestling announcer Gordon Solie, who has followed Morton and Gibson since they first became a tag team in 1983: "The go out every night like Davids against Goliaths, and every night their slingshots find

their mark. They're simply incredible."

Such skills are what enabled Gibson and Morton to capture not only the Mid-South tag team championship, but also the hearts and enthusiasm of thousands of fans throughout the country. Adored and talented, The Rock 'n' Roll Express

vs. Williams & DiBiase:



Gibson circles in from behind Williams for a takedown (left). DiBiase flings Morton into the turnbuckles (above).



Morton's positioning for his flying body press against Williams is off, and the move is ineffective.

were one of the few teams around whose potential could be measured in the endless cheers that they received from the crowd.

They say opposites attract, although the saying probably wasn't intended for this type of situation. Ted DiBiase and Steve Williams are as opposite of Rogers and Morton as four wrestlers can be. Relying on rulebreaking tactics, brute strength and a sadistic streak measured in yards, DiBiase and Williams don't so much defeat their opponents as they do annihilate them. Their approach to wrestling is so far removed from that of the Rock 'n' Rolls that they seem to be engaged in two different sports—and that difference finally came to conflict recently when DiBiase and Williams met Rogers and Morton for the Mid-South tag team title.

Again outweighed by almost a

hundred pounds, Morton and Gibson seemed unconcerned before the match. Said Morton, "We've wrestled men like them before. We know what to expect. Bobby and I are ready for any kind of action. There are many ways to turn a rulebreaker's ways against him—believe me, we're experts at it. DiBiase and Williams are in for a long night."

Perhaps so, but unfortunately for The Rock 'n' Roll Express, the night wasn't long enough for them, as, in a systematically barbaric display of wrestling cannibalism, Morton and Rogers were eaten alive by the Williams-DiBiase duo.

Morton and Gibson were stymied everywhere they turned: Their drop-kicks were anticipated and met with groin kicks; their forearms were countered by bruising punch-

(Continued on page 54)

THE AMAZING CAREER OF HULK HOGAN

THERE HAS NEVER been a phenomenon like Hulk Hogan in the history of wrestling. Although the sport has produced some famous athletes—Gorgeous George, Antonino Rocca, Lou Thesz, and Bruno Sammartino, just to name a few—no one has ever burst upon the American scene the way Hulk Hogan has.

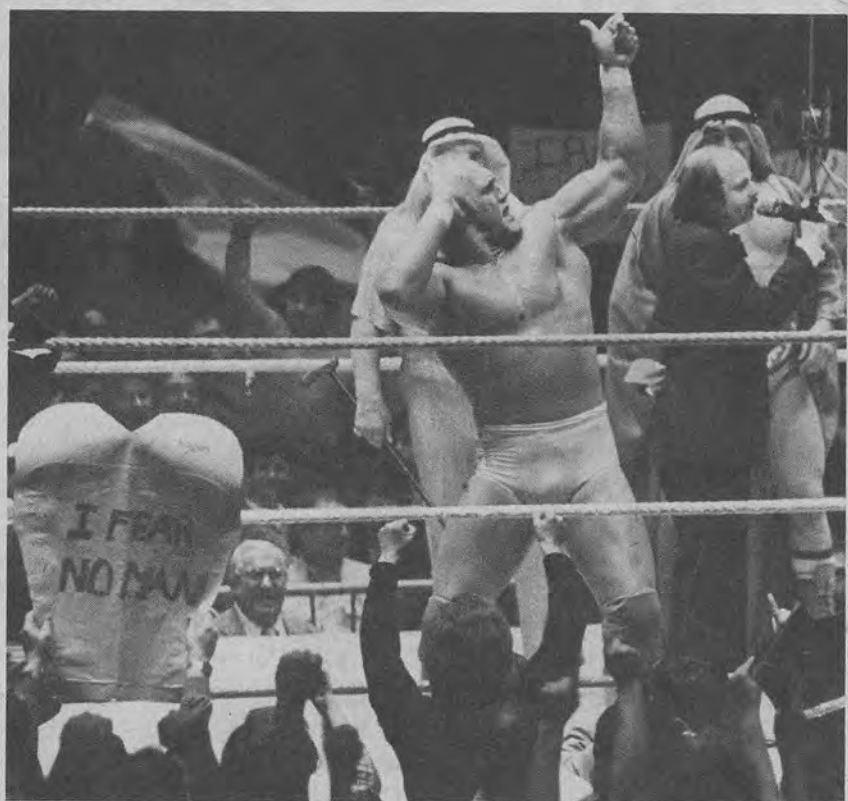
This special feature is for everyone—not just the longtime wrestling fans, but for those new fans who have been attracted to the sport by Hulk Hogan's charisma.

A little biography. Hulk Hogan's real name is Terry Bollea, and before becoming Hulk Hogan, he wrestled under two different names, Terry Boulder and Sterling Golden. For most of his career, Hogan has been a rulebreaker, although he has been a fan favorite for the past 2½ years.

Some of the early photos of Hogan look laughable today. Who is that young man with his chest hair shaved to look like a mushroom cloud? Yes, it's Hulk Hogan all right.

Relive again the formative years of this great athlete, from his start in the Mid-Southern and Georgia area, to his first WWF appearance as a hated rulebreaker, through his appearance in the movie *Rocky III*, and on to his glory years as a fan favorite in the AWA and his championship reign in the WWF.

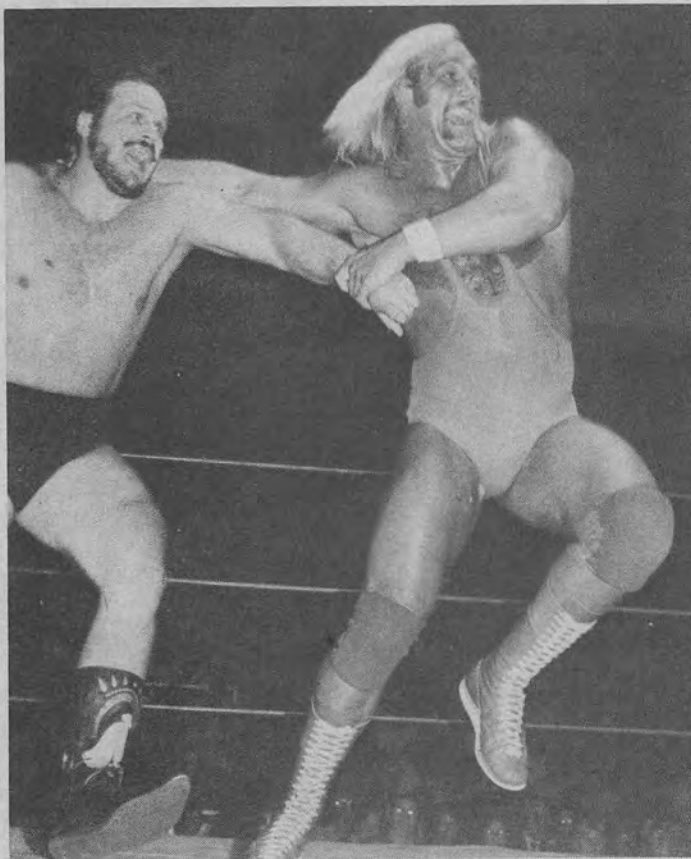
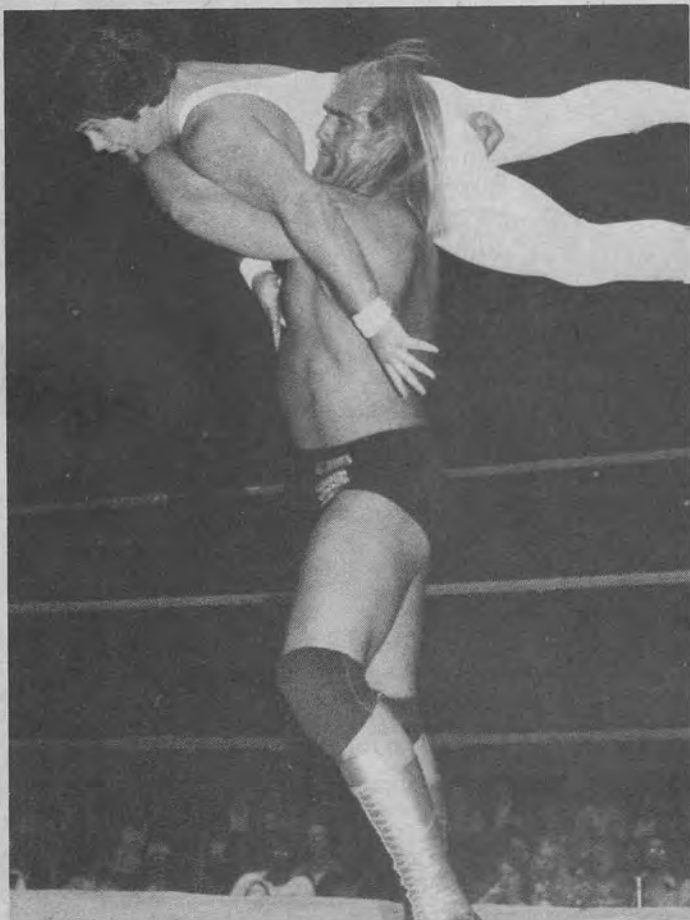
His success defies description, and Hulk Hogan may be the most remarkable story in the history of sports. *The Wrestler* has been following his career since the beginning, and hopefully, the photos on the next few pages will help you understand why the Incredible Hulk Hogan has become the biggest star ever to be produced by the sport of wrestling.



THE EARLY YEARS



Wrestling as Terry Boulder in the Mid-Southern area in early 1981, Hulk Hogan battles Pete Austin (above left), Jerry Lawler (right), Larry Latham (below left), and Ron Bass (bottom right). Roddy Piper, take note: Hulk Hogan can grow hair on his chest!



WWF RULEBREAKER



Freddie Blassie boasts his wrestler's "24-inch pythons" (above). Having been pinned by Tony Atlas while his foot was on the ropes, the Hulk shows referee Dick Kroll that he does not take defeat well (top right).



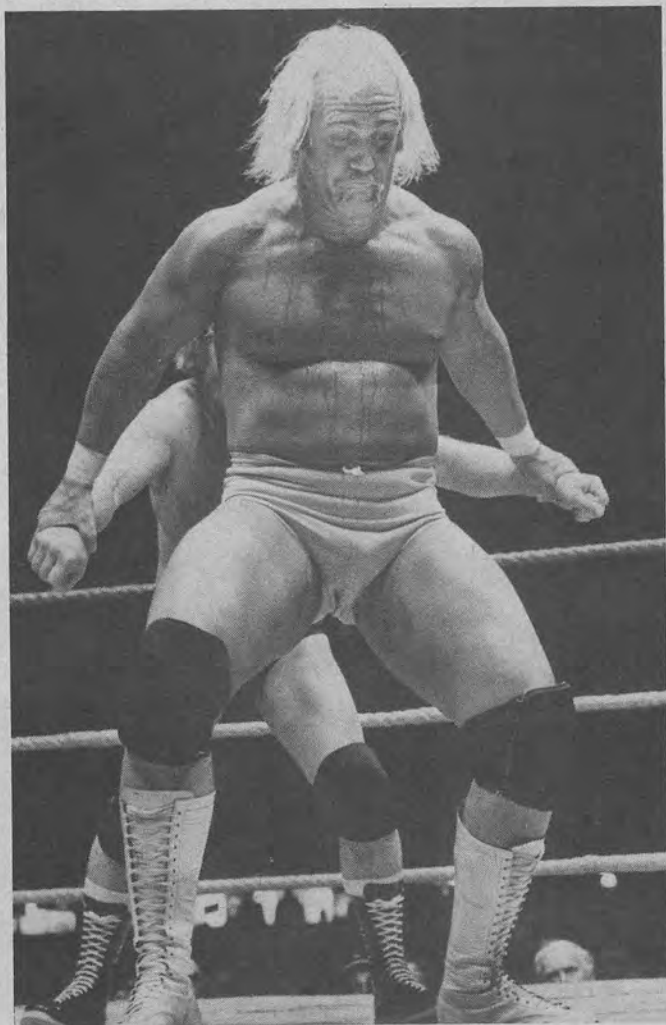
Hogan was anything but the fans' favorite in matches against Andre the Giant (left), Gorilla Monsoon (above), and Bob Backlund (below).



IN THE AWA



Hogan first began wrestling against rulebreakers when he moved into the AWA. The Hulkster slams a chair against Jerry Blackwell's head (above). One of Hogan's frustrating title matches with AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel (below).



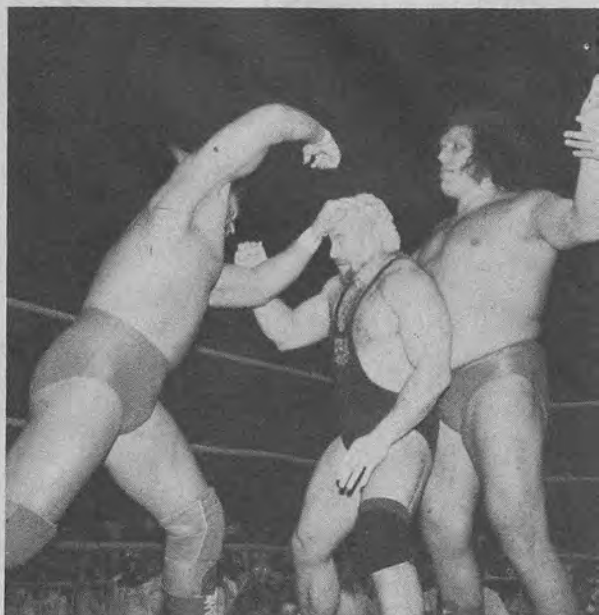
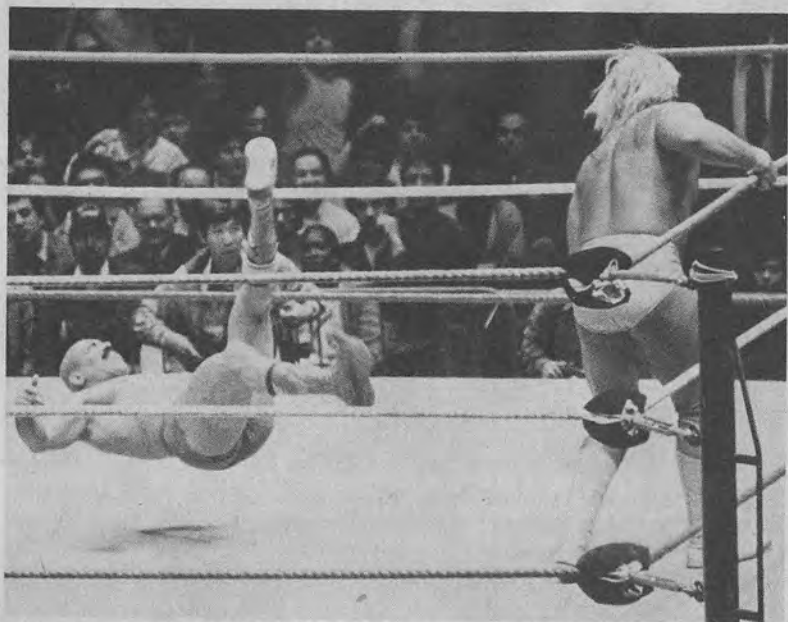
Knowing he would not be able to beat Hogan in this special wrist-wrestling challenge, Jesse Ventura would flip over the table and attack the Hulk.



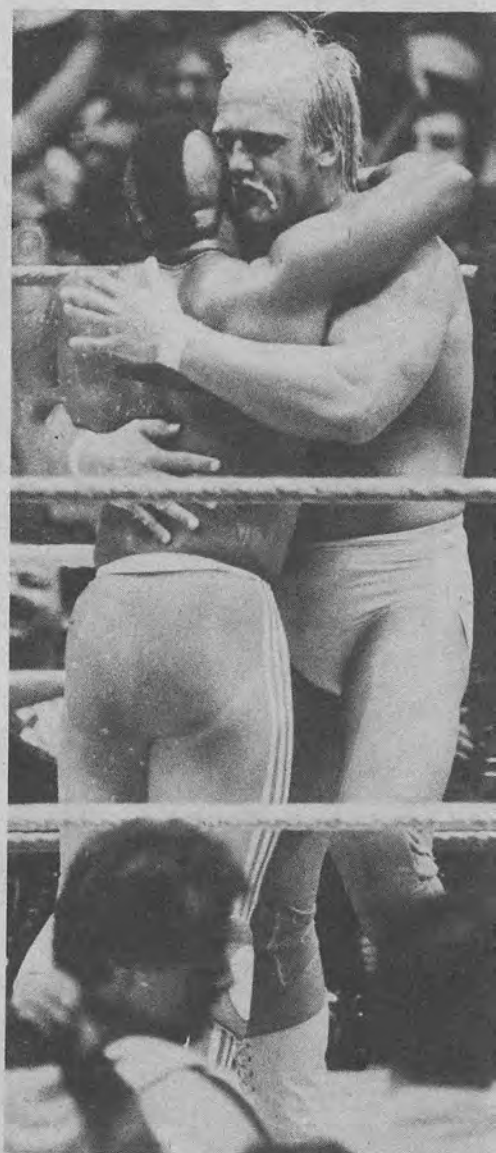
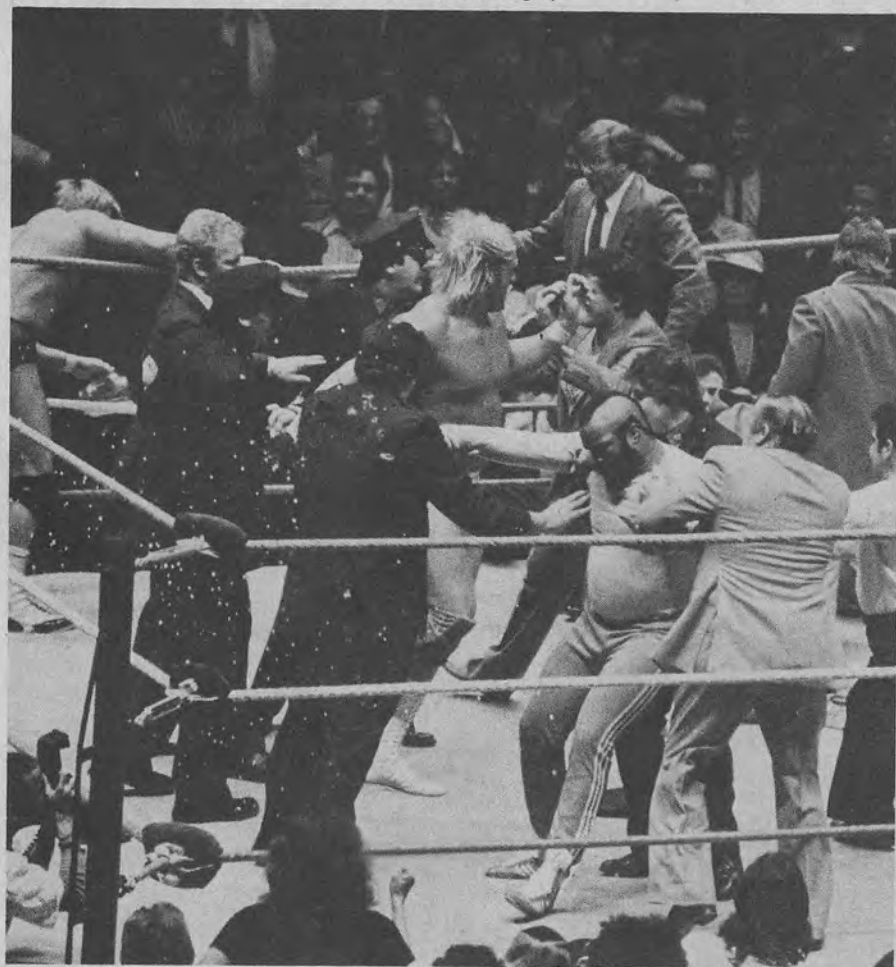
Hogan applies a rib-crushing bearhug on Ken Patera (above). In defense of America, The Hulk attacks Mr. Saito's manager, Mr. Hatori, with the Japanese flag (below).



WWF CHAMPION

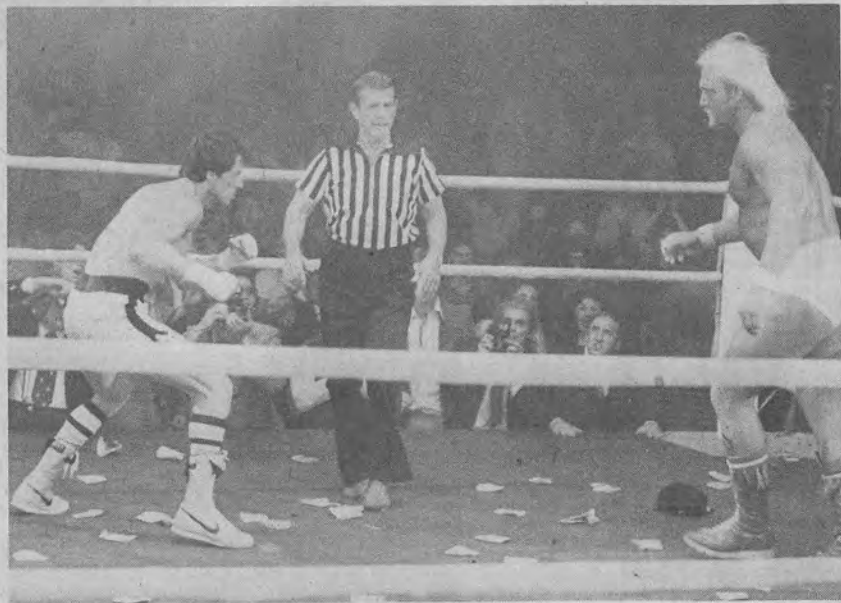


Hogan sends The Iron Sheik sprawling during his WWF title-winning effort on January 23, 1984 (above left). Teaming with Andre the Giant was one of the biggest thrills of his career. The two make a sandwich of Ken Patera (above right).



A partnership was instantly formed when Mr. T rushed into the Madison Square Garden ring to rescue Hulk Hogan from Roddy Piper, Cowboy Bob Orton, and Paul Orndorff in February (above). A month later, Hogan and Mr. T exhaustively fall into each other's arms after their WrestleMania victory over Piper and Orndorff (right).

BEYOND THE SQUARED CIRCLE



After playing "Thunderlips" opposite Sylvester Stallone in *Rocky III* (above), Hogan made an appearance on *The Tonight Show With Johnny Carson* (above right). Hogan poses for *The Wrestler's* Bill Apter (below).



Cyndi Lauper wins a Grammy Award, and Hogan is there to help her celebrate (above). Lauper, Hogan, and Mr. T discuss NBC's *Saturday Night's Main Event* at a press gathering in New York (below).



Wrestling's Hottest Feud Uncovered:

THE LAWLER- SAVAGE WAR IS RAGING OUT OF CONTROL!

Jerry Lawler, the self-proclaimed King of Wrestling, and Randy Savage, who resembles the king of the jungle, are locked into a feud so intense that it would require the wisdom of a King Solomon to resolve

THE RUMORS THAT have Randy Savage leaving the Mid-Southern area in order to end his feud with Jerry "The King" Lawler might be just rumors. After all, there are plenty of other ways for this feud to end.

- Wrestling as a professional sport might be abolished.

- The Russians might drop nuclear bombs on Memphis and parts of Kentucky.

- Hell's air-conditioning might break down and the Devil could

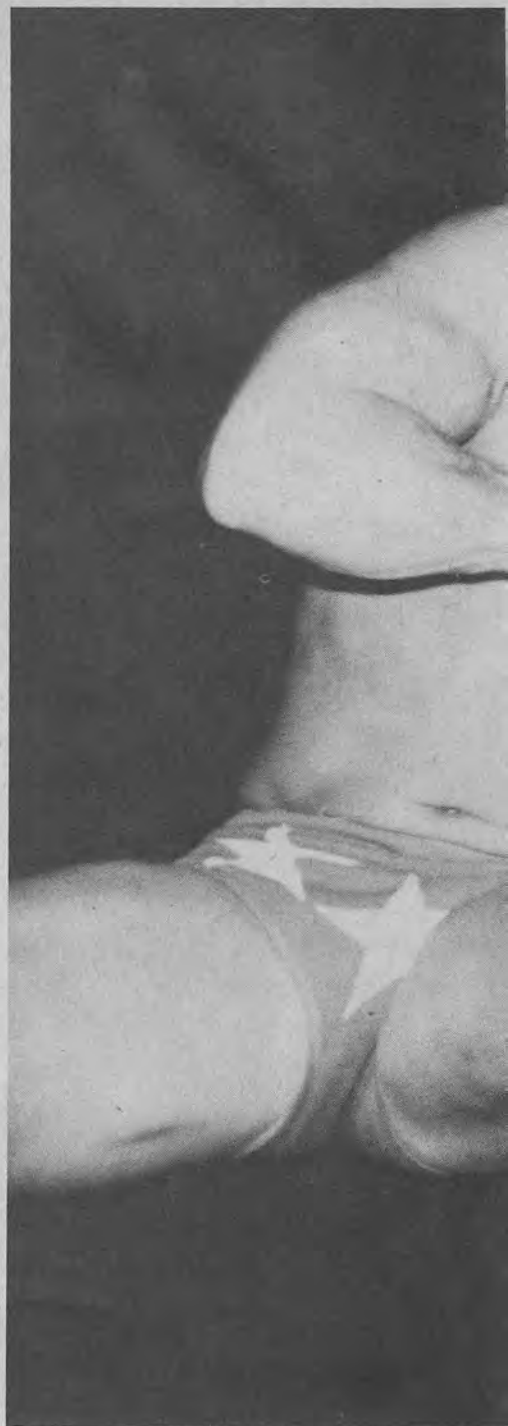
ask Savage to repair it.

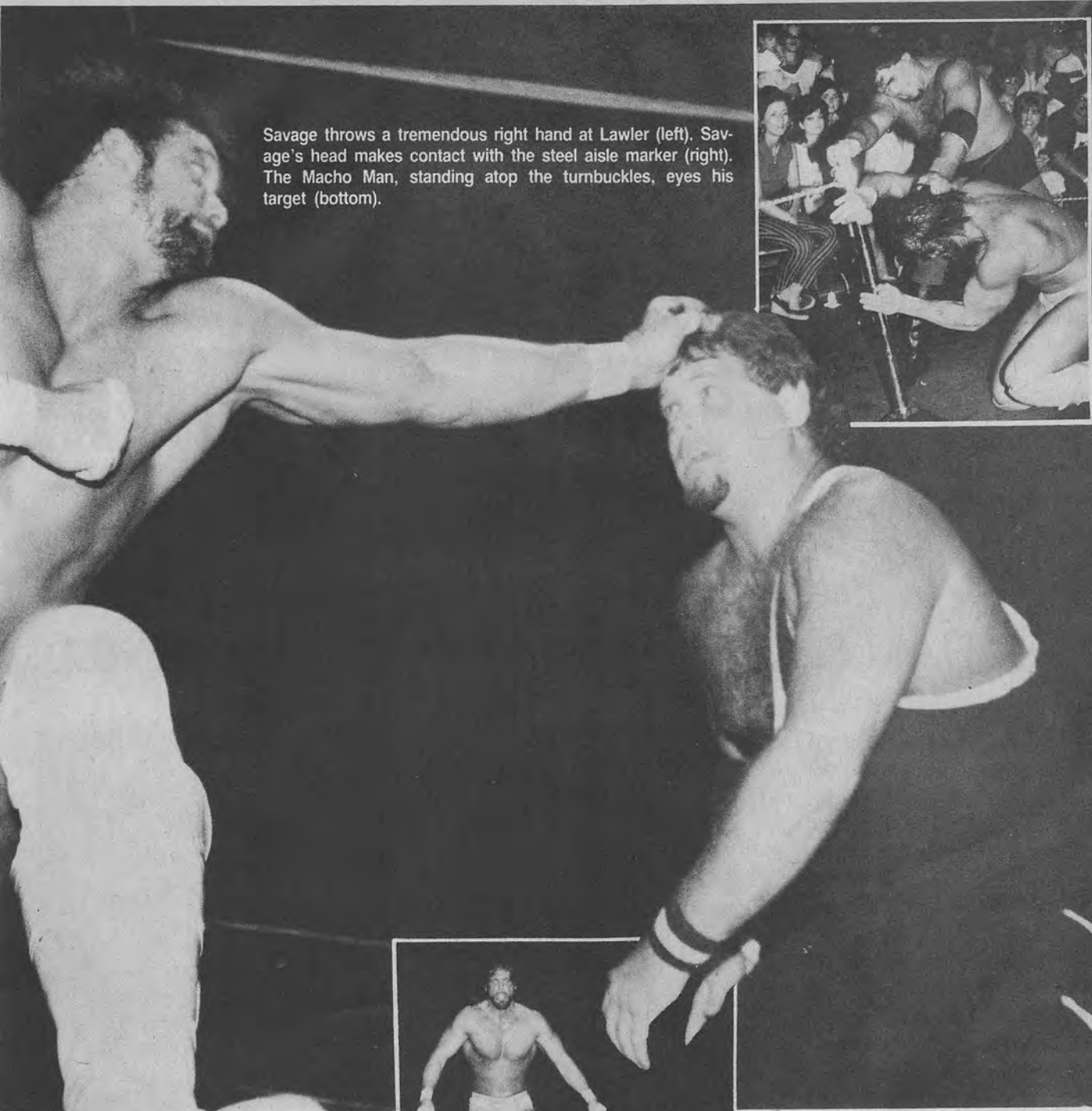
In other words, the smart money says that this is one feud that might be temporarily halted, but it has no end in sight. The driving force behind the Lawler-Savage wars is not money, nor is it a championship, although both are fighting hard for the Mid-Southern belt. These men are not fighting for some intangible, like prestige or glory or fame. Savage and Lawler are beating the hell out of each other because of hate, pure

and simple. And the hate runs so deep that many wrestling observers wish Savage *would* leave the area.

Among those sharing that opinion is veteran reporter Matt Brock.

"I'm all for a good, healthy, no-holds-barred feud," noted Brock. "They make good copy and are very exciting, but this thing is different. This one cannot end until one of these guys ends up as worm food. Put as much distance as possible between Lawler and





Savage throws a tremendous right hand at Lawler (left). Savage's head makes contact with the steel aisle marker (right). The Macho Man, standing atop the turnbuckles, eyes his target (bottom).



Savage. There's too much fire there right now."

What Matt Brock didn't realize at the time was how true his words really were. In a recent match in Memphis, Lawler pulled a trick from deep within his arsenal, and tossed a fireball at Savage. Savage reacted as one might expect a savage to react toward fire: He went berserk. He picked up the steps leading to the ring and smashed them over Lawler's head. Savage then

dragged Lawler around to the other side and flung his head into the press table. Although his right eye was practically closed, Lawler summoned the strength to bang Savage's head into the ringpost. He then threw Savage into a steel aisle marker, opening up Savage's head completely.

Blinded by his own blood, Savage flailed away wildly and connected with Lawler's head. Both men rolled around the floor, while

(Continued on page 62)

MATT BROCK'S



LOOKING BACK

FEBRUARY 1974 GRAHAM & KOLOFF VS. GAGNE & McDANIEL

TO CELEBRATE VERNE Gagne's remarkable comeback, I poured a little whiskey out of my highball and replaced it with water. Although no one was around to appreciate it, I had always been a firm believer in booze imitating life, and here was an opportunity not to be passed up. Cut with a dash of sour New Jersey water, the Scotch tasted predictably bland and diluted. You see, I saw Mr. Gagne during his prime, and that's the way I want to remember him.

You must understand that I was there that night in 1960 when Verne Gagne won his first AWA title in St. Paul. I have followed Verne's career closely ever since and applauded his decision to gracefully retire in 1981.

With men like The Road Warriors, Nikita Koloff, and Hulk Hogan running around, I feel that it would behoove Mr. Gagne to stay retired. At least, I wouldn't want my memory of him to change. The Verne Gagne I recall was a classy, stylish wrestler.



Stepping under Billy Graham's shoulder, Verne Gagne bends back the Superstar's wrist. Gagne was a master.



Ivan Koloff, showing more bulk than he does today, applies a chinlock on Wahoo McDaniel (left) and a bearhug on Gagne (above).

I remember a February, about 11 years ago, when Verne and Wahoo McDaniel wrestled a young Superstar Billy Graham and Ivan Koloff: a future WWF champ and an ex-WWF champ against the AWA champ and a perennial contender for just about every belt there is.

The action moved like a stiff ocean current as all four wrestlers battled from bell to bell. Now there is wrestling and then *there is wrestling*, and the two should never be confused. This match was a main event on any card.

Graham was especially impres-

sive. Raw and talented, relying mainly on his strength and quickness, he had both McDaniel and Gagne gasping for breath. And the team didn't lose anything power-wise when Koloff was in the ring. The Russian choked McDaniel with crushing headlocks and practically split Gagne in two with a bearhug.

Gagne and McDaniel countered with speed, agility, and tons of wrestling expertise, and Wahoo let go some tomahawk chops that could be heard clear on to the back row, where I was seated. And then there was Gagne. Physically mismatched, looking more like an insurance salesman than a wrestler, Gagne was the one who set the pace.

Like a conductor in control of his orchestra, Gagne was able to manipulate the action, even while in the grips of a Koloff bearhug. In the end it was Gagne who reversed a backbridge and pinned Graham. It was a treat watching the inexperienced Graham jump up and down like a child in a tantrum, insisting that he couldn't have lost, that he had Gagne pinned. And to then glance at Gagne, the model of decorum, calmly victorious again. □



Gagne stops a charging Graham with a well-placed dropkick to the chest and midsection. Verne would later pin Graham by reversing a backbridge.

OFF WRESTLIN

Ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. These ratings are compiled by the editors and are universally recognized as official.



Nikita Koloff

TOP10

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 3—**HULK HOGAN**
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 4—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 6—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
- 7—**CHRIS ADAMS**
225, Stratford, England
- 8—**GREG VALENTINE**
243, Seattle, WA
- 9—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 10—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC

TAG TEAMS

- 1—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**
AWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 567 pounds
- 2—**IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF**
NWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 524 pounds
- 3—**NIKOLAI VOLKOFF & THE IRON SHEIK**
WWF tag team champions
Combined weight: 607 pounds
- 4—**TED DIBIASE & STEVE WILLIAMS**
Mid-South tag team champions
Combined weight: 535 pounds
- 5—**TOMMY ROGERS & BOBBY FULTON**
World Class tag team champions
Combined weight: 462 pounds
- 6—**KOKO WARE & NORVELL AUSTIN**
Mid-Southern tag team champions
Combined weight: 473 pounds
- 7—**OLE & ARN ANDERSON**
National tag team champions
Combined weight: 525 pounds
- 8—**RICK RUDE & JESSE BARR**
U.S. tag team champions
Combined weight: 489 pounds
- 9—**DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH**
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
Combined weight: 461 pounds
- 10—**RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**
No. 1 contenders to Mid-South tag team title
Combined weight: 453 pounds

NWA and AWA ratings are compiled with the assistance of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters. "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices.

NWA

World Champion:

- RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 1—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
 - 2—**JERRY BLACKWELL**
474, Stone Mountain, GA
 - 3—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
 - 4—**RONNIE GARVIN**
231, Montreal, Quebec
 - 5—**CHRIS ADAMS**
225, Stratford, England
 - 6—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
 - 7—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
 - 8—**HERCULES HERNANDEZ**
252, Tampa, FL
 - 9—**GINO HERNANDEZ**
224, Houston, TX
 - 10—**BUZZ TYLER**
285, Rock Hill, SC

AWA

World Champion:

- RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 1—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
248, Pittsburgh, PA
 - 2—**KING TONGA**
274, Tonga
 - 3—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**
245, Beverly Hills, CA
 - 4—**BUTCH REED**
265, Kansas City, MO
 - 5—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
 - 6—**THE TONGA KID**
226, Tonga
 - 7—**JERRY BLACKWELL**
474, Stone Mountain, GA
 - 8—**MASKED SUPERSTAR**
282, Atlanta, GA
 - 9—**KAMALA**
360, Uganda
 - 10—**RAY STEVENS**
243, San Francisco, CA

MOST POPULAR

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
- 3—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 4—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 5—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 6—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA
- 7—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
- 8—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
239, Denton, TX
- 9—**TERRY TAYLOR**
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 10—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
260, Midland, TX

MOST HATED

- 1—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Glasgow, Scotland
- 2—**CHRIS ADAMS**
225, Stratford, England
- 3—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 4—**JIM GARVIN**
235, Tampa, FL
- 5—**GINO HERNANDEZ**
224, Houston, TX
- 6—**GREG VALENTINE**
243, Seattle, WA
- 7—**TED DIBIASE**
247, Omaha, NB
- 8—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 9—**BUTCH REED**
265, Kansas City, MO
- 10—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**
235, Boston, MA

SPECIAL G RATINGS

Below are the ratings for the top regional wrestling areas of the country. These ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters.

WWF

Champion:

HULK HOGAN

302, Venice Beach, CA

1—**GREG VALENTINE**

243, Seattle, WA

2—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**

274, Sunset Beach, HA

3—**RODDY PIPER**

231, Scotland

4—**JUNKYARD DOG**

260, New Orleans, LA

5—**PAUL ORNDORFF**

253, Brandon, FL

6—**RICK STEAMBOAT**

238, Honolulu, HI

7—**TITO SANTANA**

245, Mission, TX

8—**JOHN STUDD**

364, Washington, DC

9—**JIMMY SNUKA**

250, Fiji Islands

10—**KING KONG BUNDY**

446, Atlantic City, NJ

MISSOURI

1—**JERRY BLACKWELL**

474, Stone Mountain, GA

2—**KERRY VON ERICH**

260, Denton, TX

3—**HARLEY RACE**

253, Kansas City, MO

4—**BOB BACKLUND**

242, Princeton, MN

5—**WAHOO McDANIEL**

260, Midland, TX

6—**BUTCH REED**

265, Kansas City, MO

7—**MR. POGO**

255, Tokyo, Japan

8—**ICEMAN PARSONS**

232, St. Louis, MO

9—**TED DIBIASE**

247, Omaha, NB

10—**BULLDOG BOB BROWN**

258, Winnipeg, Manitoba

WORLD CLASS

1—**CHRIS ADAMS**

225, Stratford, England

2—**GINO HERNANDEZ**

224, Houston, TX

3—**KEVIN VON ERICH**

239, Denton, TX

4—**KERRY VON ERICH**

260, Denton, TX

5—**ONE MAN GANG**

468, Chicago, IL

6—**KABUKI**

252, Singapore

7—**MIKE VON ERICH**

220, Denton, TX

8—**BRIAN ADIDAS**

238, Denton, TX

9—**RIP OLIVER**

245, Tampa, FL

10—**SCOTT CASEY**

242, San Antonio, TX

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

1—**MAGNUM T.A.**

245, Chesapeake, VA

2—**RONNIE GARVIN**

231, Montreal, Quebec

3—**TULLY BLANCHARD**

235, San Antonio, TX

4—**DUSTY RHODES**

302, Austin, TX

5—**NIKITA KOLOFF**

275, Moscow, Russia

6—**MANNY FERNANDEZ**

245, El Paso, TX

7—**RON BASS**

265, Pampa, TX

8—**JIMMY VALIANT**

251, New York, NY

9—**DICK SLATER**

235, Tampa, FL

10—**BUZZ TYLER**

285, Rock Hill, SC

FLORIDA

1—**HERCULES HERNANDEZ**

252, Tampa, FL

2—**HECTOR GUERRERO**

243, Mexico

3—**JESSE BARR**

243, Portland, OR

4—**RICK RUDE**

246, Robbinsdale, MN

5—**WAHOO McDANIEL**

260, Midland, TX

6—**BLACKJACK MULLIGAN**

310, Sweetwater, TX

7—**BUGSY McGRAW**

268, New York, NY

8—**MIKE GRAHAM**

229, Tampa, FL

9—**RIP ROGERS**

238, Atlanta, GA

10—**SCOTT McGHEE**

220, Shipley, England

MID-SOUTH

1—**THE NIGHTMARE**

285, parts unknown

2—**TERRY TAYLOR**

225, Vero Beach, FL

3—**TED DIBIASE**

247, Omaha, NB

4—**BRAD ARMSTRONG**

223, Marietta, GA

5—**THE SNOWMAN**

250, Memphis, TN

6—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**

280, New York, NY

7—**STEVE WILLIAMS**

295, Tulsa, OK

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243, Baton Rouge, LA

9—**ICEMAN PARSONS**

245, St. Louis, MO

10—**DUTCH MANTEL**

242, Oil Trough, TX

MID-SOUTHERN

1—**RANDY SAVAGE**

245, Sarasota, FL

2—**JERRY LAWLER**

234, Memphis, TN

3—**JERRY OSKE**

243, Hartford, CT

4—**BRUISER BRODY**

300, Albuquerque, NM

5—**LANNY POFFO**

228, Sarasota, FL

6—**JAY YOUNGBLOOD**

234, Amarillo, TX

7—**KAREEM MUHAMMAD**

297, Africa

8—**BOBBY COLT**

230, Indianapolis, IN

9—**J.R. HOGG**

298, Chicago, IL

10—**BILLY TRAVIS**

218, Houston, TX

NORTHWEST

1—**MIKE MILLER**

260, Memphis, TN

2—**BOBBY JAGGERS**

265, Dunlap, KS

3—**KENDO NAGASAKI**

248, Singapore

4—**KARL STEINER**

250, East Germany

5—**CURT HENNIG**

235, Minneapolis, MN

6—**PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE**

245, Hollywood, CA

7—**RICKY VAUGHAN**

245, Tampa, FL

8—**MEGA MAHARISHI**

260, Portland, OR

9—**RIP OLIVER**

245, Tampa, FL

10—**MR. EBONY**

242, parts unknown

For period ended May 29, 1985

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Today the WWF, tomorrow the world?: Several issues ago, we asked fans to write in to let us know whether WWF champion Hulk Hogan should be recognized as the third World champion, along with NWA champion Ric Flair and AWA titleholder Rick Martel. Well, the mail



Hulk Hogan

is coming in heavy, and we expect to let you know what our verdict is in an upcoming issue.

Thus far, the mail has been running about 60 percent in favor of calling Hogan's title a World title. Here are some excerpts, both pro and con:

Calvin Hayden, Bronx: "I have always felt that the WWF title should be recognized as a World title. I think the staff of *The Wrestler*

and the other magazines have made a very bad error in judgment."

Mike Facciani, Johnstown, Pennsylvania: "It's absolutely ridiculous for your mags not to recognize Hulk Hogan as a World champion. This situation should be remedied immediately. The WWF is undoubtedly the dominant force in wrestling now."

Scott Hendrickson, Hancock, Michigan: "My answer is a definite no. Hulk Hogan only wrestles rulebreakers, and you stated in your ratings analysis that he wrestles the same guys over and over. Second, his involvement in 'rock 'n' roll' with Cyndi Lauper and with Mr. T is a joke. Keep your rating of the WWF champion the way it is."

Lisa Hushfield, New Orleans: "The WWF wrestlers and promoters are treating wrestling as a joke, a three-ring circus. All the 'good guys' and the 'bad guys' can get together for a video [Cyndi Lauper's *Goonies*]. The WWF wrestlers and promoters have to show a lot more class before they can be considered up there with the NWA and the AWA."

Joseph Tama, Keansburg, New Jersey: "I feel that Hulk Hogan should be considered a World champion. His title defenses have been grueling matches and very hard fought and hard won, just as much as Flair's and Martel's.

He has made his mark on the WWF since he won his belt."

As we said, the mail is still flooding our offices, so if you haven't told us what you think yet, do so today.

Love him or hate him: As befits a man who must defend his title in many different areas, Ric Flair is loved by some fans and hated by others.



Ric Flair

A few examples: Flair has the support of the fans when he wrestles against men like Nikita Koloff, who is despised in this country. But when Flair climbs into the ring against someone like Magnum T.A. or Kerry Von Erch, the NWA king really hears the boos from the crowd. All this makes it very hard for us to know whether Flair should be included in

our "Most Hated" category or our "Most Popular." Our own surveys indicate that Ric Flair has enough support to be included in both categories.

All of this doesn't seem to bother Ric Flair. "As long as I'm rated number one in the 'Top 10,' I don't care whether I'm loved or hated," says the NWA champion. "I wrestle the same way against all of my opponents. And I won't allow anyone to hype me into being some sort of a cartoon-character hero. I'm Ric Flair, the best wrestler in the world. That's enough for me."

The address for mail: We always welcome suggestions and comments about our ratings system. Sometimes we will even reprint some of your letters, as we did in the first section above. It's very important to us that you continue to tell us what you think, both pro and con. We take our responsibilities to you and to wrestling very seriously, so any feedback we receive from the fans helps not only us, but you as well. Send any suggestions, gripes, and complaints, to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o *The Wrestler*; Box 48; Rockville Centre; New York 11571. □

YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 6)

SEE FLAIR FOR WHAT HE IS

Hey, what's with you guys? In *The Wrestler* and your sister publications, you write about Ric Flair as if he were a scientific wrestler. I think you people are being blinded by his abilities and don't see him for what he is.

First of all, I have to admit that Flair is the best wrestler I've ever seen. I saw him pin Rick Steamboat in the Meadowlands last year in what was the greatest match I ever attended. So I give him the credit he deserves. But, on the other hand, how can you condone the type of tactics he constantly uses in the ring? He is always pulling on trunks for leverage or blindsiding an unsuspecting opponent. To me, it's inexcusable that a man with his talent should resort to cheating.

On a recent telecast of *World Championship Wrestling*, Flair was as vicious as I've ever seen him. He is starting to use his figure-four leglock not only to win matches, but to try to cripple opponents as well.

Give Ric Flair his due as a wrestler, but don't avoid the facts: He cheats.

BOB HIRSHFIELD
New York

WHERE'S WATTS?

On May 26, one of the saddest announcements I've ever heard came on the SuperStation: Bill Watts said that Mid-South wrestling would no longer be on WTBS.

For the past few weeks, I've enjoyed Mid-South wrestling so much. They have so many big stars like Brad Armstrong and Terry Taylor, and the telecast was by far the best of any on the air. Each match seemed to be of main-event quality.

On saying goodbye, Watts mentioned that Jim Crockett's promotional stable of wrestlers would be taking over his time slot. Then he graciously told the audience how good he

(Continued on page 50)

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YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 47)



Bill Watts receives a commendation from reader Kelly Holley for his Mid-South wrestling show that appeared on WTBS.

thought Crockett's wrestlers are. To me, Bill Watts is not only one of the best promoters in the business, but one of the true gentleman of wrestling, too.

I hope that Mr. Crockett will decide to give some of Watt's wrestlers exposure on the SuperStation. Men like Armstrong and Taylor and The Rock 'n' Roll Express will help give Mr. Crockett the best wrestling show on television, and we new fans of the Mid-South won't go hungry for our favorite new stars.

KELLY HOLLEY
 Atlanta

THE MEN BEHIND THE MIKE

With so much wrestling on television, I thought that I'd give you my ratings of the top five best announcers and the bottom five worst. Here goes:

The Five Best

1—Gordon Solie (Florida): Still the undisputed champion of announcers. Good voice, knowledgeable, and totally impartial.

2—Jesse Ventura (WWF): "The Body" is also "The Voice." A breath of fresh air on the boring, predictable

WWF broadcasts.

3—Tony Schiavone (SuperStation): An improving rookie. Should be a top-notch announcer in another few years.

4—Bruno Sammartino (WWF): When "The Living Legend" has something to say, he is insightful and interesting. Unfortunately, these days



Mark Lowrance interviews Billy Haynes and Sunshine.

it sounds like he is disgusted at most of the action he is forced to describe.

5—Mark Lowrance (World Class): Young an inexperienced, but he definitely shows promise.

The Five Worst

1—Vince McMahon (WWF): He owns the promotion, so is it any wonder he looks and sounds like a shill? The absolute worst.

2—Ken Resnick (AWA): He sounds more like a carnival barker than a wrestling announcer. He belongs in the WWF, where he can describe pie fights.

3—Jack Reynolds (WWF): Where did they dig this guy up from? He sounds like he hasn't seen a wrestling match in 20 years. He's usually misinformed and uninformed.

4—Larry Hennig (AWA): Perfect for the AWA. This guy is so in the past, he thinks Baron Von Raschke is an equal to The Road Warriors. Consider Dick the Bruiser a rising young star.

5—Gene Okerlund (WWF): Obviously considers wrestling and wrestling fans something to look down on and laugh at. He's the biggest clown in Vince's circus.

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(Continued from page 12)

got a lot in common with his big brothers, though: They're all dogs."

Q: "This is for Sgt. Slaughter: Krusher Khrushchev, an American traitor, and Nikita Koloff, a Russian, are using your hold, the cobra clutch. How do you feel about this?"—Stephen Caruso, Columbia, MD

A: "Well, Stephen, it's a free country," Slaughter replied. "Russians have copied Americans for years and years, so it's no surprise that



Nikita Koloff applies a cobra clutch on Mark Fleming. It doesn't upset Sgt. Slaughter that Koloff is using the hold he made famous.

these two low-lives would steal something as American as my born-in-the-U.S.A. cobra clutch. But any time these two enemies of freedom want to get in the ring with me, we'll see who's got the real cobra clutch and who's got the cheap foreign imitations."

Q: "I'm a relatively new fan to professional wrestling, and I was so upset when Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo lost the WWF tag team title to Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff. But I was wondering who held the WWF tag team title before Barry and Mike."—Sara Quinlan, Brooklyn

A: Windham and Rotundo became WWF tag team champions when

they defeated the team of Adrian Adonis and Dick Murdoch in Hartford, Connecticut, on January 21, 1985. By the way, Murdoch and Adonis had held the belts since April 17, 1984, when they defeated then-champions Rocky Johnson and Tony Atlas.

Q: "Could you tell me the real names of Hawk and Animal, The Road Warriors?"—Andrea Jamison, St. Paul

A: Precious Paul Ellering, manager of the Warriors, told us this: "The Road Warriors' real and only names are Hawk and Animal. For any fan to even believe that these two juggernauts of destruction have ever been called anything but Hawk and Animal is a big mistake. And the last person who asked The Road Warriors to their faces what their real names were currently has



Precious Paul Ellering will not reveal the real names of Animal and Hawk. And he does not suggest that anyone ask the Warriors that question face to face.

various parts of his body residing in two different hospitals. Seems Hawk pulled off the poor fellow's leg and arm, which was sent to one hospital, and Animal ripped out the clown's spleen and pancreas, which was shipped crosstown. We feel a lot of regret about this. *Ha haa haaaaaa!*"

□

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JUNE 1982

July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: The Sheik. Cover story: Bruno Sammartino. **PLUS:** Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: Koff and Smirnoff. Cover story: Bruno vs. Zbyszko. **PLUS:** Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

May 1982/COLOR POSTER: Ric Flair. Cover story: Wrestling II vs. Spoiler. **PLUS:** Backlund, McDaniel, Piper.

June 1982/COLOR POSTER: Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. **PLUS:** Snuka, Patera, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR POSTER: Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. **PLUS:** Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

September 1982/COLOR POSTER: Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. **PLUS:** Piper, Snuka, Von Erich, Martel, AWA Sheiks.

October 1982/COLOR POSTER: Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. **PLUS:** Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

December 1982/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. **PLUS:** Von Erich, Orndorff, Albano.

January 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ken Patera. Cover story: Rick Steamboat. **PLUS:** Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

February 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Putski. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Garvin. **PLUS:** Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

April 1983/COLOR POSTER: Superstar Graham. Cover story: Mil Mascaras. **PLUS:** Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.

June 1983/COLOR POSTER: Cowboy Bob Orton. Cover story: Rick Martel. **PLUS:** Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

July 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Koff. Cover story: Tommy Rich. **PLUS:** Patera, Von Erich, Snuka, Geigel.

August 1983/COLOR POSTER: Larry Zbyszko. Cover story: Roddy Piper. **PLUS:** Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

October 1983/COLOR POSTER: Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Tommy Rich. **PLUS:** Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.

November 1983/COLOR POSTER: Roddy Piper. Cover story: Harley Race. **PLUS:** Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR POSTER: Wahoo McDaniel. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. **PLUS:** Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

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February 1984/COLOR POSTER: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. Cover story: Greg Valentine. **PLUS:** Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

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June 1984/COLOR POSTER: Dick Slater. Cover story: Ted DiBiase. **PLUS:** Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, One Man Gang, Hogan.

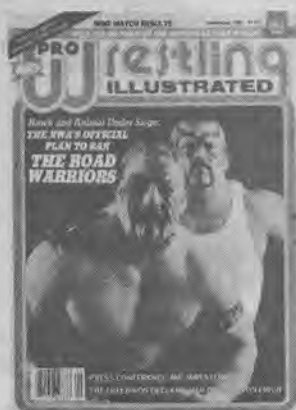
July 1984/COLOR POSTER: Paul Ellering. Cover story: Jimmy Valiant. **PLUS:** JYD, Fabulous Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR POSTER: Stan Hansen. Cover story: Jerry Lawler. **PLUS:** Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

September 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. **SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE**—A Look Back At Wrestling In The PWI Years.

October 1984/COLOR POSTER: Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. **PLUS:** Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Sgt. Slaughter. **PLUS:** Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.



SEPTEMBER 1984

December 1984/COLOR POSTER: Kerry Von Erich. Cover story: Barry Windham. **PLUS:** Rich, Martel, McDaniel, WWF-NWA TV war.

January 1985/COLOR POSTER: Tito Santana. Cover story: Road Warriors. **PLUS:** Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR POSTER: Magnum T.A. Cover story: Rick Martel. **PLUS:** Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

March 1985/SPECIAL YEAR-END AWARDS ISSUE! FOUR PAGE COLOR SECTION: Billy Jack, Roddy Piper, Ric Flair vs. Kerry Von Erich; **PLUS:** 1984—The Year In Review.

April 1985/COLOR POSTER: Ronnie Garvin. Cover story: Jimmy Snuka. **PLUS:** Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

May 1985/COLOR POSTER: Road Warriors. **SPECIAL TAG TEAM ISSUE!** Cover story: Fabulous Ones & Rock 'n' Roll Express. **PLUS:** Windham & Rotundo, Von Erich & Billy Haynes, PWI Rates Top 15 teams.

June 1985/COLOR POSTER: Barry Windham. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. **PLUS:** Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, Magnum T.A.

July 1985/COLOR POSTER: Sgt. Slaughter. Cover story: Hogan vs. Piper. **PLUS:** Road Warriors, One Man Gang, Magnum T.A., Martel.



MARCH 1985

August 1985/COLOR POSTER: Rock 'n' Roll Express. Cover story: Von Erichs. **PLUS:** Slaughter, Hogan, NWA scouting reports.

September 1985/COLOR POSTER: Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Magnum T.A. **PLUS:** Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

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ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS

(Continued from page 33)



The Rock 'n' Rolls could not take advantage of the several opportunities they had to win the match. Dr. Death uses his powerful legs to push out of Gibson's pin attempt.

es to the head—DiBiase and Williams had obviously done their homework. Now, *their* sense of timing seemed uncanny. The two worked together as if they had been teaming for years, rather than for the actual two months.

Many might reject their style but none can argue with the result: Ted DiBiase and Steve Williams are the new Mid-South tag team champs. DiBiase spoke about the win with his usual lack of respect, "Who'd we beat? A couple of kids? You call them wrestlers, I call them toddlers. They need a mother's helper to watch out for them."

Williams added his own insult to injury: "I've had tougher fights against my 10-year-old nephew. At least he knows how to fight."

The match was not as one-sided as DiBiase and Williams described it. Morton and Gibson occasionally controlled the action but could not mount a sustained offensive. And for possibly the first time in their careers, they appeared to be physically overmatched.

The problem is not in the loss,

which is inevitable for every wrestler (with the possible exception of Andre the Giant). The problem rather is in the way Morton and Gibson are handling the defeat.

The loss of the match, of the belts, of the prestige of being champions, and the sense that they somehow let their fans down have affected Morton and Gibson in an unusual way. In subsequent matches following the title loss, they've appeared listless, lacking their usual spring and excitability. Rather than hungering for a rematch, Morton and Gibson seem to be avoiding DiBiase and Williams.

Can the music be over? Is this the end of one of wrestling's most popular duos? Gordon Solie offers this observation: "Gibson and Morton are young and talented. They've gulped success but never tasted real defeat. This was definitely the biggest loss of their careers. You can't expect them to rebound instantly. It'll take them some time to absorb the impact of the loss and learn that defeat is part of the game."



Morton applies a headlock on Williams, but it appears that much of his strength is already gone by this point.

"I'm not concerned whatsoever. They're tough and resilient. They have complete fan support to buoy them. They'll be back and they'll be stronger. Defeat is a great teacher."

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CORRESPONDENTS

(Continued from page 10)

beat Greg Valentine & Brutus Beefcake . . . Roddy Piper & Cowboy Bob Orton beat S.D. Jones & George Wells . . . Jimmy Snuka & Rick Steamboat beat Charlie Fulton & Moondog Spot . . . Dynamite Kid & Davey Boy Smith defeated Jim Neidhardt & Brett Hart.

Montreal (Correspondents—Brigitte & Chantal Bigras): The Road Warriors traveled north of the border to defend their AWA World tag team titles against the team of Dino Bravo and Jos LeDuc.

Bravo gained an early advantage for his team when he



Jos LeDuc needed medical attention following the match in which he teamed with Dino Bravo against The Road Warriors.

dropkicked Hawk from behind, sending the Road Warrior over the top rope. Later, LeDuc showed his agility, dropkicking Animal twice in a row. Furious, Animal looked over at Bravo and spat at him. Animal missed his target, but Bravo was infuriated. He tagged in and hit Animal with a series of punches and a devastating spinecrusher.

Animal made the tag and immediately powerslammed Bravo.



Bruiser Brody (above) and Mark Lewin inflicted a great deal of damage upon each other in their "Lone Star Shootout" in Beaumont, Texas.

Hawk leaped at Bravo from the second rope, but Dino dodged and managed to tag LeDuc. For a few minutes, LeDuc had the best of Hawk, but the Warriors threw big Jos out of the ring while their manager, Precious Paul Ellering, stepped inside. Bravo hit Ellering with at least four punches and had Precious Paul begging for mercy. Meanwhile, outside the ring, Animal delivered a piledriver against LeDuc. With LeDuc unconscious and bleeding profusely, the referee counted him out.

In other matches, Rick Martel & Jacques Rougeau Jr. defeated Canadian International tag team champions King Tonga & Richard

Charland by disqualification in a non-title bout ... In a Texas death match, Raymond Rougeau defeated Leo Burke ... Jimmy Garvin defeated Reggie Rapone ... Gino Brito Jr. defeated Pierre Lefebvre by disqualification ... Armand Rougeau defeated Rick Steiner ... Scott Duran defeated Tony Ricco.

Beaumont, TX (Correspondent—Joey Miguez): The fans at the Beaumont Civic Center were treated to one of the wildest matches to take place this year. The match, dubbed "Lone Star Shootout," pitted Bruiser Brody, making his Texas return, against Mark Lewin, who, under the management of Col. Buck Robley, is more vicious than ever.

The match was little more than a back-alley brawl from the opening bell. Lewin, seeing he could not overpower Brody, attacked his foe with a foreign object, leaving Bruiser stunned in the corner. Lewin then walked around the ring in a trancelike state, grunting and groaning at his manager and the referee. Given time to recover, Brody got back to his feet and threw Lewin out of the ring.

Outside the ring, the two fought with anything they could find. Lewin jabbed Brody with a fountain pen, knocking him several rows into the stands. Brody smashed Lewin's face into a chair, and then attacked referee John Martinez, leaving him semi-conscious. The two wrestlers then exchanged blows with chairs, guard rails, rope, and the bell. Finally referee Martinez made his way to the ring and signaled a double-disqualification.

In other matches, Bob Sweetan, Omar Atlas, & Paul Diamond defeated Al Madril, Chavo Guerrero, & Tug Taylor ... Lord Humongous beat Dennis Goulet ... Madd Maxx defeated Tom Jones ... Al Madril & Paul Diamond wrestled to a draw. □

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 8)

fireballs!

Bobby "The Brain" Heenan has put a \$25,000 bounty on the head of former employee **Paul Orndorff** ... It's so strange to hear fans cheering **George "The Animal"**



The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff gang up on George Steele. "The Animal" is on the hunt for revenge.

Steele. Capt. Lou Albano, who managed Steele several times in the past, hopes to help George get a measure of revenge against the men who turned against him, **Fred Blassie**, **The Iron Sheik**, and **Nikolai Volkoff** ... With **Koko Ware** still on the injured list, **Norvell Austin** is using **Billy Travis** as his partner in the PYT Express. Austin and Travis have been given permission to defend the Mid-Southern tag team title.

Austin Idol has signed for a series of matches in Tennessee ... **Sunshine** says she is having no trouble managing **Kabuki**. It was thought that the mysterious Oriental man would turn on her and ally himself once again with **Gary Hart**. It seems, however, that the problems Kabuki had with Hart are so deep rooted, all he wants to do is hurt Gary and his wrestler, **One Man Gang**. Isn't it strange? Kabuki

(Continued on page 60)

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March 1981/Cover story: SPECIAL EDITION—Results of 1980 Fan Poll
April 1981/Cover story: Atlas. PLUS: Flair, Moondogs, Wrestling II.
June 1981/Cover stories: Morales-Khan. PLUS: Lawler, Slater, Piper.

August 1981/Cover story: Freebirds. PLUS: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Brisco.
September 1981/Cover story: Backlund-Mosca. PLUS: Freebirds, Flair, Rich, Junkyard Dog.
October 1981/Cover stories: Rich-Race, Hogan-Hansen. PLUS: Moondogs, Freebirds, Putski-Koloff.
November 1981/Cover story: Rhodes-DiBiase. PLUS: Steamboat, Mulligan, McDaniel, Spoiler.
December 1981/Cover story: Muraco-Morales. PLUS: Patera, Steele, Andre.
March 1982/Cover stories: Valentine, Brisco-Funk. PLUS: Steele, Flair, Hayes.
April 1982/Cover stories: Spoiler, Idol-Hayes. PLUS: Morales, Super D, Ladd.
May 1982/Cover story: Rich-Flair. PLUS: Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.

June 1982/Cover stories: Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Wrestlers rate each other.

July 1982/Cover stories: Steamboat-Idol, Albano. PLUS: Rhodes, Patera.

August 1982/Cover stories: Piper-Rich, Flair-Slater. PLUS: Rhodes, Valentine, Backwinkel.

September 1982/Cover story: Von Erich, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Mascaras, Hansen, Rhodes, Blassie.

October 1982/Cover story: Funk-Abdullah. PLUS: Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.

November 1982/Cover story: Piper. PLUS: Abdullah, Saito, Von Erich.

December 1982/Cover stories: Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair. PLUS: Albano, Humpertink.

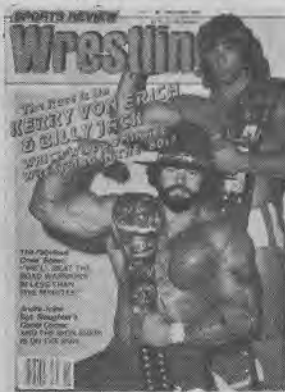
January 1983/Cover stories: Rich, McDaniel-Valentine. PLUS: Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Race, Morales-Rose. PLUS: Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.

March 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Bass, Snuka. PLUS: Sullivan, Steamboat.

April 1983/Cover stories: Backlund-Graham, Briscos. PLUS: Rhodes, Hogan.

May 1983/Cover story: Muraco. PLUS: Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco.



NOVEMBER 1984

June 1983/Cover stories: Piper, Bockwinkel-Patterson. PLUS: Brody, Sullivan.

July 1983/Cover story: Valiant-Humpertink. PLUS: Martel, Hernandez, Murdoch, Armstrong.

October 1983/Cover stories: Martel-Valentine, Mulligan. PLUS: Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.

November 1983/Cover stories: Andre-Mulligan, Kamala-Brody. PLUS: Slater, Wrestling II, Backlund.

December 1983/Cover story: Windham-LeDuc. PLUS: Santana, Sullivan, Garvin, masked wrestlers.

January 1984/Cover stories: Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Gilbert, Windham, Flair, Mosca.

February 1984/Cover stories: Rich-Sawyer, Idol-Hansen. PLUS: Martel, Parsons, Von Erich.

March 1984/Cover story: Starrcade '83 featuring Flair, Steamboat & Youngblood, Piper-Valentine. PLUS: Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.

April 1984/Cover stories: Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki. PLUS: Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.

May 1984/Cover stories: LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins. PLUS: The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!

June 1984/Cover stories: Windham-Flair, Gilbert. PLUS: Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.

July 1984/Cover stories: Flair-Gordy. PLUS: Duggan, Blanchard, Brisco, AWA Tag team tournament.

August 1984/Cover stories: Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes. PLUS: Zbyszko, Von Erich, The Faces Of Wrestling.

September 1984/Cover stories: Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.

October 1984/Cover stories: Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video. PLUS: Atlas, Spoiler, historic Orange Bowl card.

November 1984/Cover story: Von Erich & Billy Jack. PLUS: Andre, Fabulous Ones, The Summer Wars!

December 1984/Cover stories: Rich-Gilbert, Martel. PLUS: Mascaras, Youngblood, World Class action weekend.

January 1985/Cover stories: Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund. PLUS: Fabulous Ones, Pro Wrestling USA.

February 1985/Cover stories: Sullivan-Graham, Hernandez & Nicola Roberts. PLUS: Bruno Jr., Steamboat, Warriors.

March 1985/Cover story: Starrcade '84 featuring Flair, Rhodes, Steamboat, Koloffs. PLUS: 1985 Datebook, Hayes, wrestling school.

April 1985/Cover stories: Von Erich-Blackwell, Billy Haynes-Jesse Barr. PLUS: Hart, Irwins, 1985 in Pictures.

May 1985/Cover stories: Albano, Freebirds-Flair. PLUS: Steamboat, Hernandez, Las Vegas closeup.

June 1985/Cover story: Pro Wrestling U.S.A. PLUS: Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.

July 1985/Cover stories: Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches. PLUS: Backlund, Snuka.

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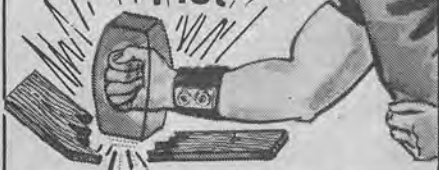
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 58)

is out to get Hart and anyone involved with him, and **Chris Adams** wants to do the same. Yet Adams refuses to acknowledge even the existence of his former valet **Sunshine** or his former friend **Kabuli**, who was in the Hart stable at the same time he was ... **Hercules Hernandez**, who deserted Sunshine in Texas, moved on to Florida where he captured the Southern title from **Brian Blair**. Blair has decided to return to the WWF.



David Shultz, who was offered a contract by Puerto Rican promoters, has a lot to say about a certain WWF promoter in his *Wrestling 85* interview.

hesitating to sign it. Shultz, incidentally, did a lot of talking about **John Stossel**, **Hulk Hogan**, and **Vince McMahon** in an interview in the Fall 1985 edition of our sister publication *Wrestling 85*. I recommend that you read this one!

Capt. Lou Albano, clean shaven for his movie *Wiseguys*, is now growing the long hair and beard back now that filming is over. **Tony Atlas**, who shaved his head bald, is also letting his hair grow back ... Former referees **Nick Patrick** and **Pat Tanaka** are now wrestling. Patrick is locked in a feud against **Randy Rose** down South while Tanaka is chasing NWA Junior heavyweight champion **Denny Brown** ... **Dick Murdoch** and **Adrian Adonis** are back from a tour of Japan. Adonis has returned to the WWF, while Murdoch has been negotiating with the AWA ... **Freebird Terry Gordy** will get a shot at PWF International champion **Jumbo Tsuruta** on his next tour of Japan ... In Australia, **Mark Youngblood** has been teaming with Aussie champion **Ron Miller**. **Killer Khan**, also on tour "Down Under," was disqualified in a match against veteran **Mario Milano**.

And that's what's happening! See you at the matches! □

Shortly after defecting from the Sunshine camp in Texas, Hercules Hernandez captured the Southern title in Florida.

National heavyweight champion **Ronnie Garvin** has his hands full with top challenger **Black Bart**. "When you wrestle Black Bart, you are actually wrestling three men," explains Garvin. "You have Bart in the ring and his friend **Ron Bass** at the ringside, along with their manager **Jim Dillon**. It's a handicap match anytime I go against Bart"

Joel Watts, son of Mid-South President **Bill Watts**, has produced some exciting videos for Mid-South TV ... **Iceman Parsons** and Mid-South newcomer **The Snowman** are working out in the gym. Their goal is to win the Mid-South tag team titles from **Ted DiBiase** and **Steve "Dr. Death" Williams** ... **"Dr. D" David Shultz** has been offered a lucrative contract by promoters in Puerto Rico, but he is

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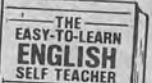
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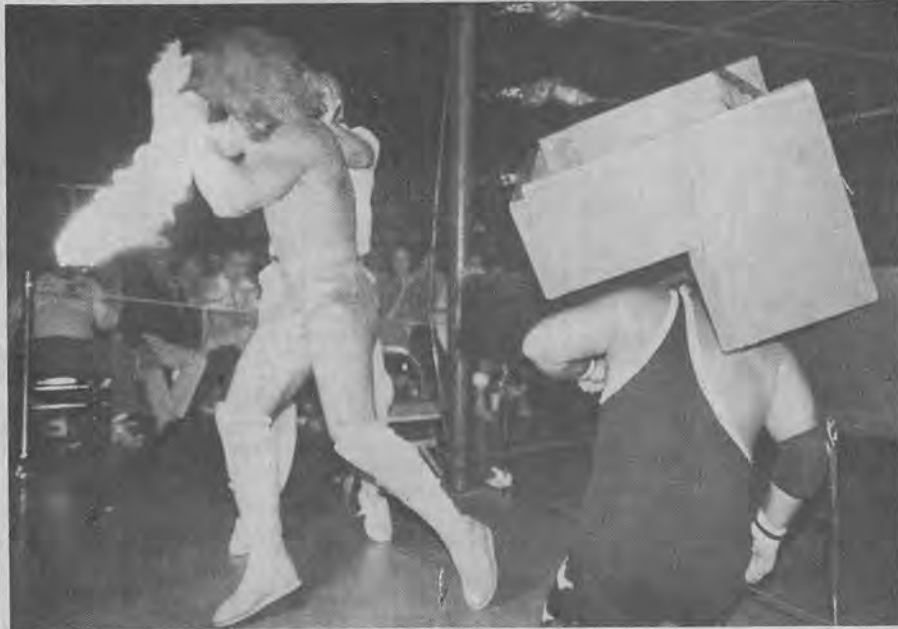
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Savage uses a cane to drive Lawler's chin
into the ringsteps.



When Savage tried to use the steps in an-
other encounter (above), Lawler threw a
fireball at him (below).



down. Lawler and Savage contin-
ued their mutual assault and it re-
quired the referee and several se-
curity guards to separate them.
Even the crowd had more than it
could stand.

Afterward, as Savage was be-
ing stitched up, he spoke to re-
porters about what makes this
feud different from all others.
"This guy Lawler just represents
everything I hate in this world. He
plays up to the fans like he's the
second coming of Elvis Presley,
when all he really is a dirty, con-
niving hillbilly.

"Did you see him throw fire at
me tonight? Man, I could have
been blinded. Or killed. I don't
think Jerry Lawler understands
the nature of this beast. When I
get mad, I can't be stopped. He
thinks I was mad tonight. That's
nothing. He doesn't know what I
can do to a man. I've made men
beg and grovel in front of me.
What I'm gonna do to Lawler I'd
rather do alone, with no fans or
officials. I don't think fans could
bear to see their 'King' so
humiliated."

As Savage spoke, his eyes

popped with an unspe...
It was a fury matched in...
dressing room to his left, wh...
The King was holding his ov...
kind of court.

"When I get in the ring with that guy," Lawler said, venom dripping from his every word, "I lose all control. I can only think that nothing I do, no matter how dirty or brutal, is bad enough for Randy Savage."

"Wrestling Savage has taught me a lot about myself. I don't like myself when I'm in the ring with that man. I become homicidal. I lose control. I don't recognize any form of restraint. I want to kill him. And I'm scared that I will."

Lanny Poffo, Savage's brother, has become more aggressive in the ring as of late, but he still cannot believe what he sees when Randy wrestles Lawler. "When he is in the same ring with Jerry Lawler," Poffo said, "I feel as if I'm watching a battle out of the Middle Ages."

Even Tux Newman, Savage's manager and confidant, gets unnerved by the goings on in the ring. "Randy is the toughest cat in wrestling," Newman said, "but nothing I could tell him would help him in the ring with Lawler. Those two guys become possessed. They're maniacs. What's scary is that you know Lawler will never leave Memphis, but if he keeps fighting Randy Savage the way he has, he's gonna be spending all of his time in the Memphis underground, next to his ole buddy Elvis."

With so many people voicing concern over the Savage-Lawler feud, perhaps it's time that they both signed a loser-leave-town match. Under those circumstances, one can almost hear the steady flow of blood that would result, but it would forcibly put an end to their vendetta—a vendetta that's infecting wrestling with its sadistic disregard for health and safety.

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IMPORTANT!

Your initials must appear below to qualify for Free Sample Import. Because of high cost and limited supply, I hereby agree to limit my request to one, and one ONLY, Free Sample Import. I have not previously requested this Free sample. I am over 18 years of age.
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NO PRESCRIPTION NEEDED

Here's the proven and effective way to lose pounds and inches quickly. The Energizer Capsules contain a strong appetite suppressant that helps curb your hunger pangs so you can lose weight fast. If you can't resist eating, get the help you need with this powerful diet aid. Join the thousands of people who are losing weight and feeling great doing it. Energizer program comes complete with Diet Tips. Money back if not satisfied. 24 day supply for \$6.98. SPECIAL! 48 day supply for only \$11.98.

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Brush on Fabulous Insta-Wite for whiter, brighter teeth. That's how simple and easy it is to turn dull yellow stained teeth into radiant white teeth with Insta-Wite. Insta-Wite works fantastically. Whitens the most stained yellow teeth as it covers up ugly blemishes (coffee, tea and smoker stains) and gold fillings. Completely safe and harmless to gums, teeth and fillings. Used by thousands... Just pennies a treatment... Now available to you on a special 20 day free trial.

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A NEW SHAPE IN 30 DAYS or pay nothing!

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Guaranteed Results... Hercuplan program must work for you too or simply return the Hercuplan label for your full refund. Order your Hercuplan Program today to develop your new shape "tomorrow."

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☐ I am adding \$1.50 for express service

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Street _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

20th Anniversary Celebration

THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES!

In our special 20th anniversary celebration issue of *The Wrestler* (August/1985), we invited readers to send us their choices for the 10 best wrestlers of the last 20 years. If you haven't filled out your ballot yet, here's another chance for you to do so. In our big anniversary issue, we had a special color section featuring the 12 wrestlers who the staff of *The Wrestler* chose as their picks for the all-time best. As a guide in helping you make your choice, we have reprinted our selections in alphabetical order. Remember, your choices need not be our choices. **Your top 10 will be printed in *The Wrestler's* January 1986 issue, on sale November 5th.**

***The Wrestler's* 12 Best:** Bob Backlund; Nick Bockwinkel; Jack Brisco; Ric Flair; Verne Gagne; Hulk Hogan; Don Leo Jonathan; Mil Mascaras; Harley Race; Dusty Rhodes; Bruno Sammartino; The Sheik

THE BALLOT

In this special fan ballot, write in *your* choices for the 10 best wrestlers of the last 20 years.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Mail ballot to:

THE WRESTLER TOP 10

c/o *The Wrestler*, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____

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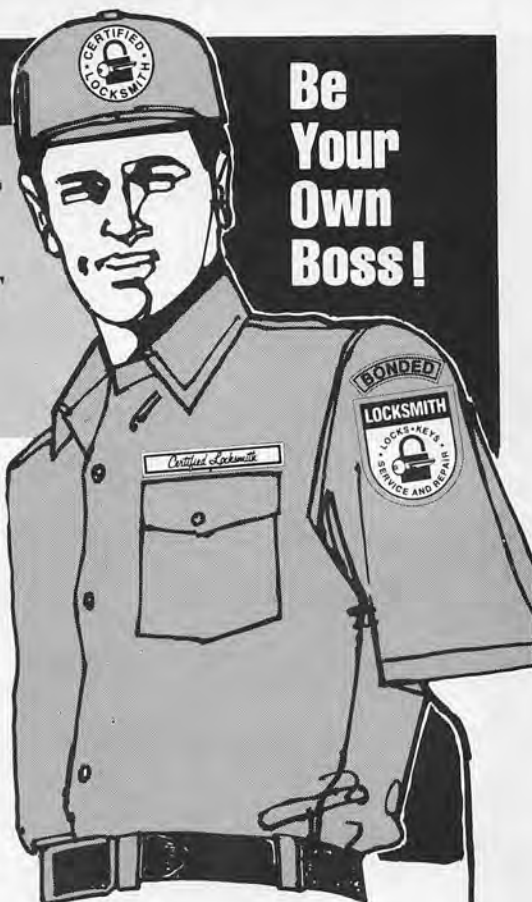
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training. Covers all phases of Burglar, Hold-Up and Fire Alarm servicing and installation. This valuable and timely instruction includes all special tools and supplies. ONLY Foley-Belsaw offers such extensive training in this rapidly expanding field as a part of your Locksmith training.

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How to change combinations, install and service Safe, Vault and Bank Safe-Deposit Box locks. You'll find it fascinating and highly profitable work.

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BE A LOCKSMITH!

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Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209



"I opened my own business, spare time, seven months after I enrolled and made a profit of \$329 for the first week."
B. A. Deberry Littleton, Colorado

"No more hard, nasty work for me. Now I have my own business and with hardly any effort I average around \$50 a day. Thanks for my new start in life."
Sam Walker Prichard, Alabama



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...YOU Can Do It Too!

Now, Even If You Have Been Thin For Years, You Can

GAIN ^{UP} _{TO} 5, 10, 15 POUNDS

without dangerous drugs, without exercise,

without unpleasant tasting medicines,

MEN—an impressive manly body,

WOMEN—a curvier, glamorous figure.

If you had started this amazing method just a few short weeks ago, right now you could be up to 5, 10, even 15 pounds heavier or more!

At last, no matter what you have tried, no matter what you have done, if you are a normally healthy person, you can gain up to 5, 10, 15 pounds or more safely, surely, pleasantly, and that's a guaranteed money-back fact.

Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to meal-times, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs... as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be

SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE



... a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear... If you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit... embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly... your chest is too flat... your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be... If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh... so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

HERE IS OUR OFFER...

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straight-forward offer...

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your

GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try it for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better... If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt... even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and at least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

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535 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10017

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

- ☐ One GAIN PLAN for \$9.98
☐ SAVE \$2.00! Order 2 for \$17.96
☐ SAVE \$5.00! Order 3 for \$25.00

Enclosed is \$

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

NAME _____ please print

ADDRESS _____

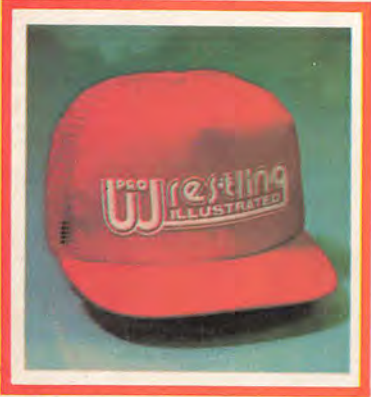
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A favorite among wrestling fans for years. These high-quality, silk-screened shirts are a fashion blend of 50% comfortable cotton and 50% long-wearing polyester. The official *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* T-shirt is crimson-red with white lettering and comes in a selection of four sizes: small, medium, large, and extra large. Only \$7.00.

THE PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED CAP

The perfect companion to the *PWI* T-shirt. A bright crimson-red hat emblazoned with a white *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* logo in unique raised lettering for a spectacular three-dimensional look and feel. Be the first fan in your neighborhood to wear one! Top-quality, long-wearing—one size fits all. Only \$7.00.

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Get ready for summer fun the whole year-round with the only flying disc to bear the official *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* name. A bright red disc with yellow and white lettering, the *PWI* "Skyflyer" is constructed of sturdy plastic for years of enjoyment. A full 9 1/4 inches in diameter. Only \$5.00.

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ALL FIVE ITEMS! YOU'LL RECEIVE: ONE T-SHIRT, ONE HAT, ONE SKYFLYER, TWO BUMPER STICKERS, AND TWO BUTTONS! THAT'S A \$25.00 VALUE FOR THE SPECIAL LOW PRICE OF ONLY \$19.95 (save over \$5.00!) THE PERFECT BIRTHDAY OR HOLIDAY GIFT FOR ANY WRESTLING FAN!



PWI BUMPER STICKER



PWI BUTTON



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PWI CAP	\$7.00 ea.		
PWI SKYFLYER	\$5.00 ea.		
PWI BUMPER STICKER	\$2.00 ea.		
PWI BUTTON	\$1.00 ea.		
PWI DELUXE PACKAGE	\$19.95 ea.		
TOTAL AMOUNT			

SHIRT SIZE ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ XLarge

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Make checks payable to TV SPORTS, INC.

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